

Sacramento City Unified School District  
**Special Board of Education Emergency Meeting**

**March 17, 2022 Public Comments**

Name:	Anna Molander
Comment:	<p>As a parent in the District with few, if any, barriers in my life, I need to speak up for those that can't. Our children are suffering and struggling and we need you to focus on them, not on political theatre and finger pointing. The number one thing our kids need are quality people - qualified teachers, enthusiastic lunch ladies, tireless classroom aides, careful bus drivers, etc. By throwing up smokescreens about our budget and funding, you're making it worse. The quality people leave or don't apply to our district. Making the cycle worse. The school board needs to make the Superintendent pick up the phone, call SCTA, SEIU, and start talking about solving today's problem and working together with the District employees for a great future for our district. Be a role model for our children - show compassion, empathy, and humility. We all employ Superintendent Aguilar to do the right thing and sit down with SCTA and SEIU and get a deal done.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 3/17/2022 9:49:48 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District  
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**March 17, 2022 Public Comments**

Name:	Shawnda Westly
Comment:	<p>Due to the last minute scheduling of this press conference, most working families can not attend public comment in order to stress how much we support our teachers and how the District's positioning will only exacerbate the staffing shortage we are already experiencing. A wage freeze, a pay cut of 2% and an increase in what the membership pays towards health care means one thing. More teachers finding better packages in districts to work for outside Sac City Schools. If you look at how that affects my child at caleb greenwood? They will be fine - because the district continues to prioritize schools with low duplicated % students for substitute needs - which means those without a high percentage of low income, english language learners and foster youth. For instance, Phoebe Hearst had ZERO substitute teacher requests unfilled, while less affluent schools bear the weight of unfilled substitute positions. This is not equity. This is taking advantage of lower income families who work 2-3 jobs and don't have the time nor energy to join a call at the middle of the day to express their concern for their children. Thats the Boards job - and only a few board members speak up about it. It's time to make SCUSD the employer of choice and restore education equity.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 3/17/2022 10:22:24 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District  
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**March 17, 2022 Public Comments**

Name:	katie ragle
Comment:	<p>I am writing to say that our family supports our teachers, their union and all that they do to serve our students. I find the emails through the district messaging system regarding today's rally to be an incredibly inappropriate misuse of this communication device and an abuse of power. Yes, we as parents and guardians of students within the district have many questions about strike details, but what isn't needed is propaganda from the district to try and place the blame on our under-supported educators. What we NEED is for the district to worry less about optics and more about ACTUALLY DOING SOMETHING and listening to those whose bodies are in the classrooms and doing the work and what they need to support our kids. Not blame-game guilt-ridden fear-mongering messaging. Stop the drama. Get to helping our teachers so they can help our kids.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 3/17/2022 10:47:19 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District  
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**March 17, 2022 Public Comments**

Name:	Tracy Mistry
Comment:	<p>I value our teachers. Again, I value our teachers. They are the frontline people, along with other non-certificated staff, who actually spend the hours of 8am-2:12pm with my children daily. I am fully aware of how hard they worked to make distance learning applicable and do-able for their students, and how hard they continue to work to re-integrate students into campus life, many for the first time. I support raises for teachers - not pay cuts, and not transferring health care costs onto them at such a substantial rate - ESPECIALLY in a year when the superintendent has seen a pay INCREASE. If the district is in such dire financial straits please re-evaluate priorities. I know there is a shortage of experienced administrators, and it has also been a near impossible situation for them as well, but they aren't with my kids all day and in a financial crisis we don't need visionaries – we need boots on the ground admins who will keep the lights on, positions filled, certificated teachers (not subs!) and kids in classrooms. The tide should rise and fall FOR ALL EMPLOYEES equally – and if SCUSD can afford raises for admin, then they should be equal for staff, or vice versa. Additionally, while the start day as been trumpeted as the reason for hiring difficulties I think actual compensation and treatment of staff are really the heart of the hiring problems. When there is already a labor shortage, and an even more critical shortage of quality, experienced, teachers it seems like a poor strategic move to drive current and potential teachers away from SCUSD (unless the goal is to drive away all our current staff and replace them with new grads who lack actual experience which is another discussion entirely). I beg you as a parent of elementary students to attend the bargaining, listen to both sides and how they act at the bargaining table, and help them work to a real compromise and avoid this scorched ground methodology that both sides currently seem driven to. My kids will not cross a picket line. So plan, and act, accordingly.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 3/17/2022 10:51:10 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District  
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**March 17, 2022 Public Comments**

Name:	justine hearn
Comment:	<p>I'm writing primarily to express my support for teachers and classified staff who've worked tirelessly the last 2 years to support our students during unprecedentedly difficult times. You know well how difficult it is to recruit and retain qualified staff; now is not the time to make employment at scusd less desirable by freezing pay and eliminating positions. Our most vulnerable students continue to suffer, and the impression parents are getting is that the District has put financial concerns way above care for students. I cannot believe that's actually the case - I know you must care about education and our kids! But over the last year we've seen how slow the District has been to respond to challenges including organizing independent study and sluggishness at communicating to families regarding covid safety in schools. This negative view is exacerbated by the dubious use of parents' emails to broadcast the district's view on the teacher's union and possible strike. Naturally, you need to respond to the situation, but after months of limited communication on substantive issues related to the well-being of our students, to receive two emails in one week addressing the district's opinion with their captive audience feels unprofessional and manipulative. Finally, scheduling board meetings during working hours with minimal notice further undermines parents' trust in the Board and District. We want to be partners, we want to trust you, we want see creative solutions to the challenges that face us all, but the way the district communicates leaves parents feeling unheard, disrespected, and suspicious. I believe you can do better by students and families, even while working with the teachers' Union on difficult issues. Our students need to be kept at the heart of your deliberations and decisions. Thank you for listening.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

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Date/time Stamp: 3/17/2022 11:48:57 AM