

Board of Education Meeting

February 20, 2024

Written Public Comments

Name:	Muriel Strand
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	12.1
Comment:	<p>while most everyone nowadays has to do more with less, cutting funding for those with the least is a recipe for having less, much less, in the future. please carefully consider what will happen to and with the very poorest children is their most basic needs aren't met. i foresee that the question of how we will afford ourselves is not going to get easier in the future, so we have to start thinking outside the box.</p> <p>http://work4sustenance.blogspot.com/</p> <p>https://www.researchgate.net/publication/333581837_Is_it_true_that_'Small_Is_Beautiful</p>

February 20, 2024

Written Public Comments

Name:	Cathleen Williams
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	12.1
Comment:	<p>Dear Sacramento City School Board,</p> <p>I write to register community opposition to the proposed cuts to Homeless Student Services. As a Sacramento city resident who sent my children through Sacramento city schools, I want to encourage the board to continue and increase this funding. These students are the hope of our future. By supporting and fully funding their education and their special needs we address the devastation of homelessness and its impact on the young.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Cathleen Williams</p>

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February 20, 2024

Written Public Comments

Name:	Zuri K. Colbert
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	12.1
Comment:	<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>My name is Zuri K. Colbert, the Founder of CLAP Community Lead Advocacy Program. Our org provides free resource support and outreach in the Sacramento community in several of the zip codes of the Sacramento City Unified School District. We stand with the Black Parallel School Board to protect our unhoused students and families in the Sacramento City Unified School District and demand no cutting of funding to Homeless Education Services for students experiencing homelessness. The mere consideration to cut funding for students who are experiencing homelessness or the resources that support these efforts reflects the lack of care for the most vulnerable members in the school district. A decision to cut Homeless Education Services instead of expanding these pertinent services counters the district's messaging in the recent years to assure students have some aspect of security while pursuing their education.</p> <p>In Sacramento, there is a profound amount of families who are experiencing homelessness with 60% of those families with children being Black. In the Sacramento City Unified School District, Black students make up 12% of SCUSD's student population but 34% of the unhoused student population. This high percentage highlights the significance of students experiencing homelessness and a need for targeted support services at the school district for those who need the district's help. This is an incredibly unjust situation on a racial equity and income status level by punishing students experiencing poverty who need the stability of the Sacramento City Unified School District more than ever during trying times.</p> <p>Factually, outside of the Sacramento City Unified School District system, students and their families have limited options to adequate housing, shelter, and resources when facing economic disparities. In the blistering months of winter in Sacramento, the shelters remain full, while there is little to no access to affordable housing and even basic needs. In Sacramento, there is not one safe parking lot shelter so families with children are sadly dependent on the random respite pop ups that are only open when the weather drops a certain temperature even though winter months are unbearable in this region. Cutting funding to the Homeless Education Services would compound the hardships the students in the district are already dealing with.</p>

The Sacramento City Unified School District SCUSD must not abandon our most vulnerable students and prioritize their resources. We stand in solidarity with our students experiencing homelessness and demand a fully funded, equitable education for all! the district with nixing the possibility that cutting the Homeless Education Services is a viable decision.

Best Regards,

Zuri K. Colbert