
From: G A Tubo
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 7:32 PM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Comment on item 5.0 on 5/25/21

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Dear Board President, Trustees, Superintendent, and Attendees,

I am excited to see this item on the agenda, in hopes that service to students and science will be the determining factors in how cohorts are scheduled. I would like to note that I am favor in all SCUSD students being offered the opportunity to attend four days a week although the logistics of work schedules and transportation make it less likely my children will be able to benefit personally. The point is that SCUSD students should be offered what neighboring districts and private schools are offering their students--some of those students in other districts and private schools, it must be noted, are children of SCUSD employees. Students enrolled in SCUSD don't deserve less than other students and I appreciate the Board members who prioritize SCUSD students.

Respectfully,
Alison French-Tubo
(Parent)

From: Tracy Roberts Mistry
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 8:20 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Please do NOT collapse any more cohorts/change anything else for spring

Warning! This message originates from OUTSIDE the District's email system. Please verify the sender and contents before opening attachments or clicking any links. Contact the Technology Services Help Desk at 916-643-9445 with any questions.

Hello,

I respectfully request that you keep things as they are for the last month of this school year and do NOT collapse cohorts any further. Let people keep their rhythms, and spend their energy working on getting set for fall. Further changing things is using up staff and teacher energy on re-arranging and figuring this out now, and I would MUCH rather see a robust, planned, and well executed Fall start than further disruption at this late date in the spring.

As always, the unhappy people are the most vocal, those who want to see kids back in person full time. Those of us who know that this has been an incredibly challenging time and that everyone is doing their best are generally quiet and just rolling with the situation, but know that we are out here doing our best to support our students, teachers, and staff - just not complaining about it.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Tracy Mistry (parent to two students at Alice Birney EK-8 Waldorf Inspired)

From: Emily Kapic >
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 11:11 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment

Warning! This message originates from OUTSIDE the District's email system. Please verify the sender and contents before opening attachments or clicking any links. Contact the Technology Services Help Desk at 916-643-9445 with any questions.

Dear SCUSD board,

I am writing to ask you to vote to FULLY RE-OPEN OUR SCHOOLS.

You have been elected by constituents to act in the best interest of our children. And, I believe you each know that the current model of education in SCUSD is not in the best interest of our children. In fact, they have become pawns in an argument that no longer even makes sense.

Time and time again we have been told to follow the science and now the science is clear: it is safe to reopen schools. The fact that SCTA and SCUSD are still debating 6ft vs. 3ft spacing has moved the conversation into the category of ridiculousness and frankly, it's embarrassing. The rest of the county is well past social distancing and kids elsewhere are thriving, while our children continue to wither away on zoom. With teachers and staff vaccinated what is the point of keeping kids out of school? What goal is being achieved? It cannot be safety, because with the vaccine widely accessible the argument that kids can transport Covid home and infect vulnerable family members no longer applies. We cannot keep 42,231 kids out of full-time school to protect a small number of people who are not willing to get vaccinated and protect themselves. This, in the off-chance, that an unvaccinated family member gets Covid from a child, which is unlikely because they're still being required to wear masks at school. Again, we've moved into the realm of ridiculousness. The threat is gone and now the switch has to be flipped. We have been responsible, we have struggled, our kids have suffered and now it's time to resume life as the CDC and other governing authorities have given us permission to do.

The decisions you are making will have a lasting impact on this generation. Last year the streets were flooding with people screaming for racial equality. And yet, in a district with 71% children classified as minorities, you are choosing to withhold quality education which only perpetuates our systemic failures. The number of kids that have disappeared from learning, suffered abuse and/or mental health issues far exceeds those that have benefited from Distance Learning.

The surrounding districts have all announced a return to school commitment for the fall. SCUSD needs to follow suit and communicate with parents a finite plan, not just your best intentions. Without it, parents, like myself, will sadly withdraw our children from the district. When it is no longer medically necessary you cannot ask our family to continue to endure Distance Learning or even Hybrid Learning. The mental health, financial, and loss of learning costs are too high a price to pay for a political game. Each day that Distance Learning continues highlights the disfunction of our district and the irrational behavior of an out-of-touch Union. And so, if you are unwilling to do what is best for our children we cannot stay in SCUSD.

I implore you to do the following:

- * Immediately collapse cohorts and allow students to return 5 days a week regardless of Union approval.
- * Return to full-time learning (only 3hrs on campus is impossible for working parents)
- * Commitment to full-day in-person instruction for 2021-22 school year by June 17th.
- * Conduct negotiations with SCTA now so the plan for fall is solidified.

Tonight, I hope you will choose to stand up and advocate for our children.

Sincerely,
Emily Kopic

From: Leslie Ortiz
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 11:26 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: Reopening Schools - Submitting For 5/25 Board Meeting

Warning! This message originates from OUTSIDE the District's email system. Please verify the sender and contents before opening attachments or clicking any links. Contact the Technology Services Help Desk at 916-643-9445 with any questions.

Hello,

I am emailing to submit a public comment as a parent to student's at Theodore Judah.

The continued toxic relationship between our district and union is severely impacting children's ability to receive equal education and opportunity. Surrounding districts are in school for many more hours and they've also committed to a full time return this fall. Kids being withheld from the classroom due to the inability of adults, leaders, being able to meet and follow science (3ft distancing recommended by the CDC) is truly criminal. Children's education, mental health, safety, access to meals, and endless other examples are all negatively impacted as a result.

This district must do better for their students.

I have the following questions:

1. At what point will we stop allowing the union to refuse meeting to discuss 3ft distancing, and instead, take further action to make this happen?
2. When will we confirm with families that our district is returning to full time learning this fall? Myself, and many others, are continuing to find options outside of this district that provide our children with an education that SCUCD is unable to offer. Not because we want to, but because the district is forcing us to.

I have the following ask:

1. Reopening plans should be on each meeting agenda. Not negation plans "trying to make this happen", but actual planning setting in stone that a full time return will happen, and how it will happen.

We are very thankful to be at a great school during this time, having an outstanding principle this is fighting for his students, families, and staff. The district and union need to step up and begin doing the same, please. We want to stay and support SCUSD, but there needs to be change at the leadership level to better serve this community.

Thank you,

Leslie Ortiz

Sacramento City Unified School District

Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Alina Cervantes
Comment:	<p>Good evening. Like many parents, I am tired of submitting the same comments every meeting, but it seems we lack options. Here are my demands again- 1. Take action on the 3ft spacing to at least allow all students to collapse cohorts and attend 12 hrs per week. We are tired of resolutions with no teeth. 2. Engage in public advocacy to get our kids back in school. We already know SCTA does not respond to facts or science, so please try public shaming. Organize a protest. Talk to the media. Write an op Ed for the paper. If you truly want kids back in school, have some courage and stop expecting parents to do your jobs as public advocates for our kids.</p> <p>Again, it is outrageous that kids CAN'T go for a full day of school, but they CAN eat lunch outside and stay until 2:00pm as part of the district's after school program. It's even more outrageous and inequitable that some children will now get 12 hours of in person school while some are stuck with only 6. This is educational malpractice and I wish we had a way to sue SCTA, but instead you will be the ones getting sued. We know SCTA does not put children first. They have proven that time and time again. That is old news, and I'm tired of hearing it's the reason you can't do anything. We know SCTA leadership is awful. So what? Do we continue to let the school yard bully beat up our kids because they are just too mean? We don't have time for your lack of courage anymore.</p> <p>We need re-opening plans on EVERY Board agenda and detailed plans for Fall. We need you loud and we need you public facing. We know SCTA likes to stall until the week before so they can use the panic of teachers and parents as leverage at the bargaining table. Please don't let that happen again. After all we've been through, teachers, parents and children deserve better, so do better.</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/24/2021 9:56:12 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District

Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	John Buchholz
Comment:	<p>Congratulations. You've successfully run out the clock. You all came up with an MOU that was obsolete and outdated the moment it was approved in March. Then the SCTA refused to meet and confer with the Board even though the CDC changed its recommendation from 6 feet to 3 feet, and as a result my kids have been in school a dismal 6 hours per week since the MOU went into effect in April. Then many cohorts got collapsed because you all realized that you could actually fit all those kids into a classroom and still maintain 6 feet of distance. The SCTA still refuses to accept the 3-foot recommendation, and as a result if this inaction my kids are STILL in school a dismal 6 hours per week.</p> <p>It's now May 25th, two months since an obsolete MOU was approved, and now you're only debating whether or not kids can go to school 12 hours a week instead of 6. Even if you approve it, it's still barely more than half the amount of time that they should be at school. The Board's inability to stand up to an unreasonable and bullying teacher's union has infuriated me and other parents for many months, but more importantly it has failed our children. So congratulations. The game is almost over. The clock is nearly expired. And every single child and family in this district lost.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/24/2021 10:01:29 PM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Rowena Gray
Comment:	I write in support of getting all children back into school full-time, in-person (i.e. collapsing all the cohorts and disregarding earlier and now outdated 6ft guidelines). Other districts and countries and private schools have run the experiment and the results are in-- schooling is safe. Please provide in-person education for all at the earliest possible date. Parents appreciate those on the board and in the district who are listening to science and to the needs of families and children and who want to work together towards a better education for all Sac City kids.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 6:42:25 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	kathryn colson
Comment:	<p>I strongly support getting rid of the outdated 6ft distancing standard. Kids need to be back in school in person unless there is a legitimate health and safety risk.</p> <p>We shouldn't still be talking about this issue. It should be simple. Collapse the cohorts as much as possible so that kids can learn at school.</p> <p>We need to be focusing on the full reopening in the fall. The information released on the summer programs and after school care has been very last minute and rushed. We need to plan now so that the fall will go smoothly and kids can get back on track.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 8:02:24 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Kimberly Buchholz
Comment:	<p>I urge you to immediately collapse the remaining cohorts.</p> <p>The SCTA will always have a reason why it can't do something, why a plan won't work. They have constantly villainized the District and bullied their way into positions totally unsupported by public health and science.</p> <p>SCUSD was behind all neighboring districts when it approved the MOU back in March. SCUSD remained behind as the SCTA refused to negotiate on the 3' versus 6' spacing. SCUSD is still behind as many students are still in person only 6 hours per week.</p> <p>What will it take for the District to stand up to the SCTA for the benefit of the students? No wonder families are fleeing the District and 44 teachers are facing layoffs. How does the SCTA justify its position when so many of its paying members are losing their jobs?</p> <p>My children have been failed from Day 1 of this year. Time to throw them a bone, albeit an insufficient one. All children of SCUSD deserved a better education than they received this year.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 8:03:55 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District

Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Holly Singleteary
Comment:	As an Black mother of middle and high school age children, this pandemic has affected my children greatly in the academic setting. The black and brown communities are now further pushed down and have truly lost so much academically that teachers can't even start to imagine how to address. I am thankful and support the collapsing of cohorts at all grade levels. My middle and high school children need in-person learning and socialization just as much as elementary school. If middle and high school are not in this plan I support a plan to include them.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 8:15:50 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District

Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Allison Frenzel
Comment:	<p>The situation in Sacramento City Schools needs to be addressed. How has every other district in the county figured out how to bring our children back? SCUSD and SCTA have not put students and families first and as a result our children are paying the price. The district has received millions and millions of Covid and reopening incentive dollars and we are still being told there are not appropriate desks in the rooms. The CDC has shifted requirements based on research and every teacher has been offered vaccines, and yet SCTA still insists on delaying negotiations and restricting access to a free and public education for students in Sacramento. The once “stable” cohorts have been completely destabilized by allowing only some students to return 4 days based on “state and district priority of need”, yet this is not published anywhere, and parents were not notified in advance that only certain children are entitled to increased instructional time, while others are not. If the cohorts are no longer stable, the CDC guidelines are being implemented across the county, and the district has received millions of dollars to solve this problem, there is absolutely no reason for additional delay. Not only should all students be able to return to school, but the school year should be extended to mitigate the consequences of SCUSD and SCTA’s disservice to the community.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 8:43:17 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District

Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Jessie Gouck
Comment:	<p>I am writing in full support of collapsing the cohorts and allowing students to return for four in-person days for the remainder of the year. I am speaking on behalf of my children, who are quite aware that others in our district and other districts have returned to school for more than two days. They ask "why not us?" and I cannot give them a reasonable answer.</p> <p>There is so much enthusiasm from the students for the in-person learning days. From spending time with their teachers and friends to the ability to work on projects surrounded by their peers rather than alone.</p> <p>Please give the students the chance to end school on a positive note - to enter summer with happy feelings towards school and away from their screens - and then let's get back to the business of preparing for full-time, in-person instruction in the fall. Thank you.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 9:25:47 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District

Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Jessica Stolcenberg
Comment:	My family supports collapsing of cohorts, which follows the science and CDC guidelines that 3'ft spacing is sufficient. We support being back in the classroom full time in the fall.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 10:03:42 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Jackie Hegarty
Comment:	<p>There is clear and blatant inequity occurring with the cohorts and Adding additional “needy” children to the classroom. What is the definition of “needy”?</p> <p>No one called to ask me how “needy” my kids are, how seeing their friends go to school 4 days a week and not them, makes them feels excluded and not equal. How I have paid out of pocket for additional tutoring this whole year so they would “not fall behind”. I realize having the ability to do that makes me privileged in some ways. However, how can I explain to my kids that by following the rules and paying taxes to our school district, allows those administrators to not feel our kids are “needy enough” to return to the classroom 4 days week!</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 10:40:30 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District

Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Stella Steen
Comment:	<p>To the Board, SCTA and SCUSD,</p> <p>As a parent of children who have been in SCUSD for nearly 10 years, I am weary. Weary of the ongoing and long term disputes between the SCTA and the district. Weary of arguments over budgets. Weary over the tension between those who are leading the district (SCTA, school board and the district alike) who use our children as pawns for political posturing and money.</p> <p>The SCTA has stated that they do not exist for the interest of the students. The district, despite its best intentions, are unable to open the doors of the schools. Who, then will fight for our children? Who has our children's best interests in mind? You have a duty to our children and taxpayers. Duty to spend tax money wisely and for the good of our children.</p> <p>SCUSD's last day of normalcy was March 13, 2020. 43,000 children have not received, full time, in person instruction for 15 months. That's 450 days. They've lost time with their peers. They've lost time building relationships with their teachers. They've stared at screens for months, if they bother to log on or turn on their screens. They've lost community. They've lost interest in learning.</p> <p>With vaccines widely available and all other governing authorities indicating it is safe to return to school, SCUSD needs to follow the science and return to full time instruction. Every other school district in the greater Sacramento area has committed to full time, in person instruction in the fall. Most, if not all have already returned at least 4 days a week. Meanwhile, SCUSD students get two days with no concrete plan for the fall. This is unacceptable.</p> <p>Parents are frustrated and have had enough. Enrollment will continue to decline as parents with means will move to private schools. You know this. Do you care?</p> <p>We are asking the Board, SCTA and SCUSD take action to:</p>

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collapse the cohorts in all schools IMMEDIATELY and allow all students to be on campus for live instruction, for a minimum of four days a week.• Create a clear PLAN for the fall where our children will be back in school full time and in person.• Conduct negotiations NOW for the fall so parents can be assured that their children will return to normalcy during the 2021/2022 school year. |
|--|---|

Our children deserve better than what they have been offered.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 10:47:50 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Helga Borrero
Comment:	<p>As an educator in a different school district, but a parent in this school district, I know what high functioning district looks like. Sadly sac city unified school District does not demonstrate this. Blame it on the union, blame it on the administration at the district level but this is absolutely despicable and disgusting that these two parties can never come to a consensus. The district has received millions of dollars to be able to come up with solutions and make the classrooms ready for our children to return. The union does not have our children in mind. And plays power trips , using our children as pawns. How is it that ALL other School districts in the surrounding area have managed to get their act together and welcome back students to four days a week without any hassles or problems? What other reasonable excuses are there at this point as to why all children weren't able to come back on campus 4 days a week? All of our children deserve to be on campus receiving the education that they deserve and are supposed to be guaranteed. It is appalling what these power trips from both the union and the district are costing our kids. This lack of agreement is creating a disservice for our children. Open up the schools at 3 feet apart distancing so that my child can enjoy her educational experience for the 16 days that remain of this horrific mess of a year. The union and district need to put their pride aside and out our children first.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 10:55:38 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Natasha Martin Lerner
Comment:	I am writing to support collapsing cohorts to be in step with the current public health guidance. While this is a step that could have been done weeks ago, I believe it is important to do it now to end the year on a positive note for students and to give parents confidence that the district is in step with other districts in our county. On a personal level, my children often comment that they wish they were going to school four days a week, and I think the reduction in screen time and increase in interpersonal contact would be a great way to end out the year.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 11:29:46 AM

Agenda Item:
5.0 Update on Re-Opening: Discussion/Approval of Collapsing Additional
Cohorts

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

May 20, 2021 Public Comments

Name:	Kristi Koumjian
Comment:	<p>Dear school board members,</p> <p>Thank you for holding this special meeting to discuss, and hopefully approve, the collapsing of additional cohorts. I have two 4th grade students who would greatly benefit being back to school four days a week, even if it is just the short amount of time we have left in this school year. Collapsing cohorts follows the science and CDC guidelines that 3'ft spacing is sufficient. Thank you for your consideration and for prioritizing the needs of students.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 5/25/2021 11:48:49 AM