

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

May 15, 2025

Written Public Comments

Name:	Omar Ponce and Linda McCrea
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>Dear Board Members,</p> <p>We write again with grave concern and a clear truth: the district's decision to eliminate all in-district Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) is not only a financial miscalculation - it is an ethical failure.</p> <p>Let's look at the facts:</p> <p>Since the district laid off just seven BCBAs, behavior support costs from just one Non-Public Agency (NPA) have skyrocketed from \$400,000 to over \$1.2 million per month - an annual increase of nearly \$10 million. And that's only one NPA. Several other contracted agencies are reporting similar increases. The district is hemorrhaging money on outsourced services that were previously provided in-house by qualified, credentialed professionals.</p> <p>When BCBAs were employed in-district, we saw a decrease in the number of students being sent to Non-Public Schools (NPS). These professionals supported school teams with LRE placements, staff training, behavioral assessments, and proactive intervention strategies. Since their removal, the district has seen a significant rise in NPS placements: From January to April 2025 alone, 36 students were placed in NPS settings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 36% of those students were Black,- 27% were Hispanic,- Only 0.08% were white. <p>This is a clear and deeply troubling pattern of racial disproportionality. How does this align with the board's stated commitment to equity and your partnership with the Black Parallel School Board (BPSB)?</p> <p>Each NPS placement costs the district between \$80,000 and \$130,000+ per student per year. That means the district is actively paying to create and worsen disproportionality for students whose Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) options have not been fully exhausted - and who likely do not belong in one of the most restrictive placements available.</p>