

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Jennifer Clemens
Comment:	I am a teacher at Arthur A. Benjamin Health Professions High School and am concerned about the district's lack of support for our CTE program. HPHS is a small learning community with a health care theme. I teach the Sacramento City College courses during zero period as an additional class added to my regular teaching load. Students get college credit for this class since they are enrolled in the college class. However, the district has refused to fund the .2 FTE position in order for me to teach it. It is my understanding that the district funds a full-time (1.0) FTE position to other large high school CTE programs. Our small school is not getting the support we need to offer the program that we promise our students and parents. I would like to see the district offer funding in order for me to teach this class. Thank you.

Speaking as: Employee

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/28/2020 3:40:06 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Winter Saldaña
Comment:	<p>Hello and good evening, my name is Winter Saldaña. I am a sophomore at Arthur A. Benjamin Health professions High school.</p> <p>I am here to address the current problem at our school for our 0 period. It is said that the SCUSD Board of Education will not be funding this years 0 period for HPHS. I assume it is because of the lack of money the board has to offer. If that is so, then I suggest that we hold a fundraiser for the class. Kids can go from house to house wearing a mask and staying six feet away from he door and hand out a flyer saying how to virtually support these young students trying their best to succeed in high school.</p> <p>I really support this idea because it puts the class into the students hands and gives the students an opportunity to reach out into the community and ask for support that me and my fellow students will some day be serving. This can be a simple process or a difficult one depending on how far the Board is willing to take this. I came to this school to get ahead of my education and was eager to learn at this specific school not only because it is in the medical field but also because of the 0 period classes it has to offer. Yes there are other schools that have 0 periods but not one that is built for the medical filed.</p> <p>My dream is to become a clinical pediatician. All of my teachers at this school know that and fully support me and want to help me in every way they can in reaching that goal. To me, this class is helping me reach that dream, that goal, sooner than any other student would. I would be a doctor sooner than most and out on the field sooner than most. Yes, this is thinking out into the future but my future of becoming a clinical pediatician started freshman year, if not sooner. My grades in high school and the classes that I take in high school will affect the kind of college I will be able to attend.</p> <p>If this is something the Board is not capable of doing please consider the students education and the dedication they are willing to put into it. Thank you so much for your time and I hope that you are willing to cooperate with us and figure out a proper solution,</p> <p>Winter Saldaña</p>

Speaking as: Student

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/28/2020 9:41:58 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Amy Beste-Fong
Comment:	My child is a junior and after years of school avoidance he is now excited about starting college and having this period gives him this chance . We have to catch these kids now so they can feel empowered to continue their education . And it is a class that in his area of interest, medical sciences .Now more than ever we needs folks going into this field of study. Thank you

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/29/2020 4:53:21 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Carlie Ransom
Comment:	<p>I am a very active parent to an 11th grade young lady, with interest in medicine. The zero period medical terminology course, is a huge asset to my child's education. Parents and students were guaranteed this additional course; so the fact that nobody seems to have information if the class will move forward, is a bit concerning. This situation prompts me to voice my concerns to the schools superintendent, as well as the schools board .</p> <p>I do not hold back when it comes to academic needs being met for my child; so if voicing frustration to those of higher power gets results, that's what i'll do. Those who have the capability of using their status as a platform, need to be better advocates for our children. Unacceptable!</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Ms. Ransom</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/30/2020 1:56:23 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Jasmine Tingle
Comment:	I am commenting on behalf of the students and teacher at Health Professions High school who have had a college course for credits removed because the district has yet to approve the funding for the class. You cannot continue to preach about college and career ready and contradict that very statement by not supporting this college course for the students. As I stated in several emails to board members, the support for these students and this class at this school should be nonnegotiable. The district continues to mismanage money and not allocate funds where they are needed, for our students. Please consider immediately funding this class for the students at Health Professions High School.

Speaking as: Community Member

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/29/2020 6:03:08 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Janessa Stewart
Comment:	<p>Good evening SCUSD board members, I am the parent of a kindergarten student and 8th grader here in the district. I would like to comment on the distance learning program and reopening schools plan. While I deeply admire and respect the great lengths our teachers and site staff have gone to to make this distance learning experience as do-able as possible, it is no substitute for live, in-person instruction on campus. My 8th grader has been struggling. He's an extrovert and needs his peers. Being in front of a screen all day by himself, with enough to manage in Google Classroom as some college classes is simply far too much to expect of a child that age. It is also incredibly lonely and depressing. Your 'virtual calming room' is a poor substitute for real time in-the-flesh with ones peers and teachers. I spent the last week sitting along side him for all his classes, and even as someone who has worked remotely myself for 6 years, it was too much for me to process properly without lots of focus and reviewing of materials/ emails/ messages/ to-do's etc... additionally, I have my kinder child who needs constant monitoring and assistance with her 'school day' as well as this is her 1st time every having used a computer at all. I myself am using leave time to make this happen and ensure our children are getting the attention and supervision they need, but what about the families who don't have that option? What happens when our leave time runs out? If distance learning is still happening when my leave time is used up, I will have no choice but to quit my job. I know how much we are struggling with this way of learning, so I worry greatly for those families out there who don't have the option or ability to provide 1-on-1 support to their students, or those who are English learners, or our Special Education students, or those being looked after by grandparents who may not be as tech savvy as is required to stay on top of all this, and those children in homes that are not safe and/or stable...what about them?! We need to reopen schools, and we can do so safely. I am sick and tired of the fear-mongering, and frankly as someone with a spouse who does not have the option to work remotely and has to interact with the public day in and day out (and hasn't had so much as a sniffle this whole time...) as he is a first responder, I'm really having a hard time believing that a controlled setting like a classroom (where you can ensure students wash hands/ set distance/ etc..) with a set amount of fixed students for half a day is so much riskier than any other business or organization that's been open and operating this whole time. Perhaps a better solution is to allow those teachers and students who are in a higher risk group to be the ones to do distance learning, and let the rest of us who aren't in a higher risk group and/or petrified from all the fear-mongering 'news' come back to campus for in-person learning. I am far more concerned about the emotional/ mental/ physical and academic fallout from the closures of campuses and in-person learning than I ever will be of COVID. For some students, school is the only place they are safe, cared for, get a hot meal, and more. Humans by nature are social creatures. We need our people. We need to learn from each other (not a screen), and that is what school is best for. Learning from each other,</p>

connecting with other people (be it students or teachers), playing on a playground, learning how to sit still and listen at story time, exchanging ideas and working on projects together with your peers... those things cannot be done via distance learning. COVID isn't going away anytime soon (if ever), and I believe we need to learn how to live with it. If daycares, and preschools can be open (and many have been this whole time...) so can our school campuses. Thank you for listening.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/30/2020 12:20:12 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Andrea Edwards
Comment:	As a parent of a HPHS student, I am asking the board and superintendent to take swift action in reinstating the zero period college course offered at the school. We are in week 5 of instruction, and students have not received any instruction due to budget concerns. How is this class not funded? One reason our family selected this school is because students are able to earn college credit in HS. To learn that this opportunity may be taken away from them is contradictory of any equity statements made the district.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/30/2020 12:36:27 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Caroline Nasella
Comment:	As a new SCUSD, I am commenting in hopes that the stakeholders can figure out a way to get the younger children back into the room safely. Our teachers are doing an incredible job, but SCUSD's youngest children would benefit immensely for being with their peers. I also hope that the district will prioritize regular testing of all students and teachers.

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/30/2020 6:40:09 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Becki Bell
Comment:	<p>I'm both a District employee and parent of a SCUSD student. I'd love to have my daughter back at school, and I'd love to see the students as a whole. That being said, I have no idea how a hybrid schedule would work for the majority of families when it comes to child care. If my daughter goes partial day, what do we do the rest of the day? My husband is also a District employee that isn't able to work from home and can't leave work to get her. Going two days a week would be just as bad. For those whose student is currently in a small pod with another family during DL, what if those kids aren't on the same schedule--then what? As parents that aren't able to work from home, we scrambled to figure out a plan for DL. I have no idea how we could make hybrid work unless there was feedback between parents and school sites on which kids need to be on the same schedule for child care / partial DL purposes. As someone that works at a school site, the idea of having that feedback from countless families would make for near impossible scheduling. I also would fear for the safety of all school site staff. It is either safe for everyone to return to full day or it's not. Please don't rush into any decision. If we return, then numbers spike and we have to return to DL, many will have already lost their child's spot for child care.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/30/2020 7:02:45 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Tara Thronson
Comment:	<p>Schools in Sacramento County will be eligible to offer in-person learning in two weeks. Will our leaders agree to a plan that safely allows an in-person option for those with the highest need? For those who distance learning isn't serving their child's needs, or to allow caregivers to return to jobs that can't be done remotely?</p> <p>When will our decision-makers take steps to develop a collaborative relationship to serve the students of SCUSD? The lack of collaborative leadership is hurting the students in SCUSD. We are the only district in California without a distance learning MOU. Families have already left the district. The driving factor for the many families that left my children's school was the desire to have an in-person learning option this school year.</p> <p>Our kids need a distance learning MOU. Our kids need safe in-person schooling options. Our kids need fiscal stability to avoid receivership. Our kids can't continue to wait. They need the adult decision-makers to work together. Now.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 9/30/2020 10:25:57 PM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Nicole Gustafson
Comment:	<p>I have 1st grader Washington elementary this year. As a parent I'm frustrated. We are all in this together, we are a team made of parents, board members, teachers/staff and unions. We all need to work together to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Mending the hurt and mistrust of many years of disagreements between the teachers (teachers union) and the district . We need counseling prior to arbitration to build trust or we'll never be able to move forward in agreement.2) finalize a Distant Learning plan ASAP so everyone is in the same page and same team - team kids, not district team not teachers team.3)work together for our return together plan. District and Unions should be meeting round the clock to figure out if we return, when we might return and how to do it safely for all.4) Avoid state take over - Stop the financial bleeding and make our district financially stronger for the long run. <p>I do ask that we lead by example and do as we ask our children. Work together, with respect even if we disagree. Work hard to find the best solution to solve this problem. And even when times are hard NOT give up. Set all egos aside and work together. Our question To ourselves when solving these issues should always be how will this effect our children.... Thank you.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 10/1/2020 8:10:41 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Junior Goris
Comment:	<p>Good Evening Superintendent Aguilar, President Ryan and esteem members of the board. Thank you for allowing me to present a comment tonight. As a parent with a child at MLK and an engaged member of my community, I believe each of you would agree that the safety of each and every single student is our #1 priority. As we look forward to the day that our students can return to our beloved schools, for many a pillar in our community, I would like to highlight a particular unsafe situation at the MLK site. Our school shares our recess area with a city park. Often, the site gets a lot of unwanted visitors. Dogs often run onto our site as our school kids are playing and it's a matter of time before a child gets bit. In addition, children can easily "wonder off" off the district's property putting an immense deal of pressure on our parent volunteers who already work hard with limited resources to keep our children safe. We really need a fence to keep our kids in and unwanted visitors out. I respectfully request that the board along with our Representative, Mr. Woo, look into this situation and provide a fence to help keep our children safe. These are different times and we need to constantly stay vigilant on how we can make our district better in every capacity. The thought of an avoidable injury as a dog bite because of a lack of a fence is common sense solution. I ask the board and the district humbly for your allegiance to this matter. As always thank you for your labor for our children.</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 10/1/2020 10:40:43 AM

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 1, 2020 Public Comments

Name:	Daniel Conway
Comment:	<p>As a parent of 4 students in the district, it's disheartening and disturbing to see how the needs of our children are being impacted by the discord at the district. While Sac City Unified has been a mess for many years, recent weeks have shown how voiceless and disenfranchised students and families are in determining the future of our schools. Furthermore, the lack of agreement around distance-learning, responsibly returning to campus, and how to avoid state takeover are why classroom teachers and principals seem to be increasingly vocal in their frustrations and why so many families are already fleeing the district.</p> <p>Yet the people empowered to address these issues are not changing their behaviors in the face of these multiple crises. Our district is in an unacceptable situation that has been created and compounded by adults - those same adults must step up and prioritize the needs of our children first. Meanwhile, too little is being done to address the egregious inequities that exist in our district, most of which are only being amplified by this pandemic. No more excuses or explanations, we demand leadership and results. Our families are watching because our future is in your hands.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Daniel Conway</p>

Speaking as: Parent/Guardian

Email

Tel:

Date/time Stamp: 10/1/2020 11:56:49 AM

From: Joe Flores
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2020 9:57 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Cc: Jorge Aguilar; Jessie Ryan; Christina Pritchett; Michael Minnick; Lisa Murawski; Leticia Garcia; Mai Vang Board; Darrel Woo
Subject: Old Marshall School Disposition

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 916-843-9445 with any questions.

Members of the Sacramento City Unified School District Board:

As a neighborhood leader in South Land Park, I stand with my neighbors of the Marshall-New Era Neighborhood and amplify their calls urging SCUSD to sell the Old Marshall School property to the City of Sacramento.

I understand that this action requires an unanimous vote by the SCUSD Board to support this action. Please do so to create pathways for stakeholders to restore and activate this blighted site.

Thank You.

Joe Flores

From:
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2020 11:59 AM
To: SCUSD Public Comment
Subject: SCUSD school board meeting - Public comment 10/1

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.

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Thank you,

Daniel Conway

Daniel Conway

President

