

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

**April 3, 2025**

**Written Public Comments**

Name:	Mariah Maguire-Fong
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>I attended the March 20 board meeting and delivered public comment on the district's failure to adequately plan for and resource it's promise of TK for all.</p> <p>I want to start by first thanking the district for one piece of positive movement. I've heard that Sutterville is opening a second TK class for the 2025-2026 school year. It's great to see expanded opportunities at my neighborhood school, which is impacted, with a large waitlist, given nearby Crocker does not offer TK and Crocker families often send their kids to Sutterville for TK only to then enroll at Crocker starting in Kindergarten.</p> <p>With that, I continue to urge the district to take swift action to continue to open up more TK classes at impacted schools. My family, and many others I know, continue to sit on waitlists without any updates from the district and little to no movement on waitlists at schools like Leonardo da Vinci and Theodore Judah. Offering a TK spot at a school 20-30 minutes away (40-60 minutes round trip, 2x per day) is not a solution, particularly for families with multiple kids whose kids may be at different schools as a result of poor TK resourcing and planning from SCUSD.</p> <p>I understand space and resourcing are issues, but you have had several years to plan for this, and the time to act is now. Please consider re-evaluating existing school rooms, utilizing portables, morning/afternoon sharing of rooms, and building new permanent structures. Please consider where the demand for TK next year exists and shift district resources appropriately rather than expecting families to bear the burden of poor district planning.</p> <p>Along with additional TK spots, please ensure before/after care is available to all TK students through ASES.</p> <p>I'm also requesting more transparency and communication from the district on what you are doing to solve this issue and deliver TK for all. Please publish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- How many TK classes are offered at each school.</li><li>- the length of the waitlists at all schools (even those not offering TK)</li></ul>

	<p>- What steps the district is taking to solve the waitlist problem.</p> <p>It's been disappointing to not hear back from the school board members I have emailed directly, and to hear nothing publicly from the district after I and several other families voiced concern in-person at the last board meeting.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration. I hope to see more positive movement for TK in the coming weeks</p>
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Name:	Esteban Salcedo
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	We need more options for TK! It's unacceptable that so many students are placed on the waitlist for TK.

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**Written Public Comments**

Name:	Ozra Nobari
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>Dear School District Board members,</p> <p>My name is Dr. Ozra Nobari, and I serve as the Chief Medical Officer at Sutter Center for Psychiatry. I'm also a child and adolescent psychiatrist and a passionate advocate for youth mental health in our region.</p> <p>I'm reaching out to request a few minutes on an upcoming board agenda 5/1/2025 to open a conversation. Our emergency departments are seeing an increasing number of children and teens in emotional crisis, and we recognize that ERs are not the healing environments they need. At the same time, we know outpatient resources are limited, and that schools—often the first to notice when a student is struggling—are carrying a heavy burden.</p> <p>At Sutter, we provide inpatient care as well as outpatient PHP/IOP programs, and while we don't come with a packaged solution, we do bring a willingness to listen, to collaborate, and to co-create what might be helpful. Across the country, health systems and schools have worked together through initiatives like school-based mental health collaboratives, staff training partnerships, and improved care coordination. Even simple steps—like open lines of communication or shared educational resources—can make a big difference.</p> <p>We'd be honored to learn what your district needs most and explore how we can contribute meaningfully to your efforts.</p> <p>Warmly, Ozra Nobari, MD (She/Her/Hers) Chief Medical Executive Pediatric and Adult Psychiatrist Sutter Center for Psychiatry</p>

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**Written Public Comments**

Name:	Dave O'Toole
School:	West Campus
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>I am writing regarding the planned cuts to on-campus mental health, college, and career counseling services. At my childrens' high school, West Campus, Rita McNamara has been a highly effective counselor in all three regards. She has identified funding funding and personally led once-in-a-lifetime college tours, exposing students from low-income backgrounds to the promise of higher education in institutions across the state. As Member Chueh-Griffith has noted, she provides much-needed counseling services to students across campus who are facing increasingly difficult mental health challenges during this tumultuous time. While budgets are tight, I ask that the Board carefully consider the ultimate cost of cutting an extraordinary resource and performer from a school where Ms. McNamara is so effective and highly valued. Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Dave O'Toole</p>

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**Written Public Comments**

Name:	Thach Ngu
School:	West Campus
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>To the Members of the Board of Education,</p> <p>My name is Thach Ngu, and I am a current student at West Campus High School. I am writing to express my strong support for Ms. McNamara, our college counselor, and to emphasize the critical role she plays in the success of students here. Ms. McNamara has been an incredible guide throughout my junior year, and her support has significantly shaped my academic planning and future. She has gone above and beyond to provide me with guidance on college applications, scholarships, leadership opportunities, and enrichment programs. Her dedication has opened doors I've never been exposed to—especially scholarships and programs that have made me feel more hopeful and confident about my future. Beyond resources, Ms. McNamara has helped me think critically about my intended major and encouraged me to explore my passions with a broader perspective. Her straightforward, honest, and encouraging approach is exactly what students need during their high school career.</p> <p>I firmly believe that Ms. McNamara (Rita McNamara) is not only a valuable asset to West Campus High School, but also to the entire district. Her presence will allow many more students to receive the same high-quality support that I have benefited from. She empowers students to succeed. I respectfully urge the Board to recognize the vital role Ms. McNamara plays in students' academic and personal growth, and to ensure that she remains in her position to continue making a positive impact on other students.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Thach Ngu Student, West Campus High School</p>

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**Written Public Comments**

Name:	Sandie Burgess
School:	JFK
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>I am reaching out to express my concerns regarding the decision to dissolve the Student Services and Student Support Center at John F. Kennedy High School and other campuses within the Sacramento School District. As a long-time community advocate and supporter of educational initiatives, I understand the difficult decisions that the school district faces. However, I strongly believe that eliminating these critical services will have a far-reaching negative impact on students, especially at a time when they need support more than ever. With over ten years of experience as a prevention provider, I've witnessed firsthand the critical role that student support services play in supporting the emotional and mental health of young people. As more students face challenges with substance use and mental health issues, the demand for these services has never been greater. In my work with The Be Bothered Movement, I've had the honor of partnering with the Kennedy High School Student Support Team for the past three years. Together, we've organized meaningful outreach efforts, including Mental Health Wellness Days, where students have had the opportunity to connect with peers, participate in wellness activities, and gain valuable coping skills for managing stress. Additionally, we've run after-school programs focusing on substance education and mental health support, while also educating both students and parents across the school community. These initiatives can only continue and grow with the support and collaboration of the Student Support Team, and there is still much more to be done.</p> <p>I fully understand the financial constraints that the district is facing, and the difficult decisions required in balancing priorities. However, I strongly urge you to reconsider cutting such essential services. The emotional and mental well-being of our students should remain a top priority, and the Student Support Center plays a pivotal role in ensuring that students at John F. Kennedy High School and surrounding campuses have the tools they need to succeed.</p> <p>I truly appreciate your attention to this critical matter and the ongoing commitment you show to the well-being of students within the Cougar community and beyond.</p> <p>Sincerely, John F. Kennedy High Alumni ~ Class of 1991~ Sandie Burgess</p>

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Name:	Nikita Koraddi
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>I'm writing to strongly oppose cuts to funding for mental health specialist/ student support center coordinator positions. These professionals are essential to students' well-being, academic success, and overall development. They provide vital services, including SEL lessons, classroom presentations, linkage to community resources, among many other services. With mental health challenges among young people on the rise, schools often provide the only accessible support for many students. I urge decision-makers to protect this critical funding.</p>



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Name:	Yeny Estevez
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	10.1
Comment:	I support the RT because a lot of people in my community have to use it. My kids use it too.