

5735 47th Avenue • Sacramento, CA 95824

Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Christina Pritchett Vice President Trustee Area 3

Lisa Murawski Trustee Area 1

Leticia Garcia Trustee Area 2

Jamee Villa Trustee Area 4

Chinua Rhodes Trustee Area 5

Darrel Woo Trustee Area 6

Lavinia Grace Phillips Trustee Area 7

Isa Sheikh Student Board Member January 22, 2021

Via E-Mail: dfisher@saccityta.com

David Fisher, President Sacramento City Teachers Association 5300 Elvas Avenue Sacramento, CA 95819

Re: Continuing Negotiations on Returning Students to our Schools

Dear Mr. Fisher:

This letter follows the negotiations sessions at the end of last year between the District and the Sacramento City Teachers Association ("SCTA") where the negotiation teams discussed the negotiable effects of returning our students to our school sites for purposes of one-on-one in-person special education assessments for students and small group support for students and my letter to you of January 15, 2021, requesting to resume these negotiations promptly. We offered January 22, 25 or 28, 2021 as possible dates for these negotiations and indicated that the District wanted to schedule a separate time for these negotiations so that our previously scheduled negotiations date of January 27, 2021, could focus on successor contract negotiations. SCTA responded on January 19, 2021, stating that these negotiations could occur during our session on January 27, 2021.

Discussions on in-person assessments for our special education students is critically important and deserves a separate meeting date so we can focus on providing these critical assessments of our students to ensure that they are provided with all necessary services required under the law and their individualized education plans (IEP). In this regard, the District has now been notified of three special education compliance complaints filed by attorneys of the Disability Rights of California group with the California Department of Education alleging violations of students' rights arising from a failure to timely conduct required assessments.

In addition, the District has previously passed <u>proposals to provide in-person small group support to our most vulnerable students</u>, as well as <u>proposals on the need for in-person English Language Learner</u> and <u>Vision/Hearing assessments</u>. These assessments are also critical in order to mitigate the damage that the pandemic has had in delaying the learning progress of many of our students.

Our team would like to schedule a time to meet to receive SCTA's responses to the District's last proposals on these topics, which were sent to SCTA on November 20, 2020. In addition, the team would like to discuss reopening the Burbank Urban Garden ("BUG") program either during this session or at a side table with the necessary stakeholders.

The District's negotiations team remains available to meet with SCTA's negotiation team on January 28 or 29, 2021 at or after 3:00 p.m. Please let me know by end of day Tuesday, January 26, 2021, if these dates will work for the SCTA bargaining team. This date can also be used to meet per your request on the negotiable effects of the District's learning hubs.

Our students have been learning away from our school sites since March 16, 2020. It is critically important that we continue our work to bring them back to in-person learning as soon as we are able to after our state and local health officials determine it is safe.

Sincerely,

Jorge A. Aguilar Superintendent