

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting
 September 21, 2023 Written Public
 Comments

Name:	Monica Harvey
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>Dear SCUSD School Board,</p> <p>Thank you for approving the SCTA wage increase for the 22-23 school year. This is a very positive step.</p> <p>Thank you also for approving the hiring of 1 new Language, Speech, and Hearing Specialist (aka Speech-Language Pathologist) (aka LSHS or SLP). At the same time, the district has now employed 43.6 contractor -LSHS-NPAs (nonpublic agency).</p> <p>Many of us district LSHS are starting the year off over our caseload cap of 55. We have caseloads of 67, 73, 87, 100 students, etc. While LSHS-NPA are helping, they are a revolving door, can leave at anytime during the year, and do not have the investment or oversight of this district. Virtual therapists are being offered, but this is very problematic (e.g. Who gets the student, sits the student down; logs them into a zoom session; monitors the student?).</p> <p>This is a problem.</p> <p>Our job description is 47 years old. While that might not seem like a big deal to you, any new hire is going to look at the job description and say "What???" and move on to the next district.</p> <p>This district also unilaterally eliminated the Head LSHS position. Without this SCTA position, we have not been getting the support we need from SCUSD SPED department.</p> <p>No student in this district should be receiving speech and language therapy from a LSHS with a caseload over 55. It is not equitable. It is not good practice. It is driving us to leave this field as soon as we are of retirement age or sooner. There are not enough NPA folks to cover the need. Many schools are being covered by speech-language pathology assistants with supervision once a week.</p> <p>Would you want your child to be in a classroom taught by a certificated teacher responsible for 40-60 students or taught only by a classroom aide, and while your friend's child is taught by a certificated classroom teacher responsible for only 24 students?</p>

I saw the certificated vacancy dashboard last night. What is this district doing to attract and retain LSHS? This should be the number one priority at the bargaining table.

Sincerely,
Monica Harvey
SCUSD Language, Speech and Hearing Specialist

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associated with Rocklin.

Lastly, the policy, adopted by the Board, is likely to have terrible consequences for LGBTQ people in the Rocklin Unified School District. I'm sure that you are aware of them, so I won't provide too much elaboration, except to say that it puts these people at risk of violence, some of it parental, suicide, emotional trauma and homelessness.

While difficult, I believe that the district needs to take a stand against it. Accordingly, I suggest that SCUSD review all scheduled interactions with Rocklin Unified, administrative, athletic, musical and others, with the intention of immediately canceling them. I understand the argument against it, that most of the parents and public there are against the policy, but unless we take this stand, we will be seen as accepting the policy, the hate speech promoted by the district and the tolerance of an environment that may put our own students at risk.

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Name:	Fay Gibbs
School:	Matsuyama
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	Inequitable concap process and its emotional, psychological & academic impacts on the students & family. The process disregards the child's needs. We need to enforce Children before poor administrative planning and budgeting.

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Name:	Rachel Green
School:	AM Winn
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>I am currently an attendance clerk at AM Winn and was previously an attendance clerk at Tahoe Elementary for 9 years. I have never shared my voice at a district meeting before, but I do so now. My position is considered an entry level position, but it certainly is not. It is so offensive that a teenager working at McDonalds or scooping ice cream at Baskin Robbins supposedly earns a better income than I do. I am primarily responsible for the funding that our school receives from ADA and yet I make \$17. 80 per hour and I am maxed out of the clerical salary schedule. Minimum wage in California is \$15.50. I have worked hard to increase our ADA by the efforts I have made through building relationships with students and families, incentive programs, and attendance improvement contracts . I track and encourage attendance, run attendance reports, and make contacts with families. I have a strong understanding of the systems and processes we use. I help with attendance meetings, and prepare for audits. Our tracking and reporting system is very detailed and the things we are asked to do are not entry level tasks.</p> <p>However, this is not the only responsibility I have! I work with processing the volunteers, making sure they have completed the process to be cleared, which involves sending documents to risk management for driver clearance, following up with HR about fingerprints and tracking everything in Infinite campus. I also process enrollment packets. And since we do not have a vice principal at our school the office staff is often tasked with managing student behavior and enforcing time outs, counseling with students about their behavior etc.</p> <p>We also do not have an onsite nurse so we are also tasked with basic first aid, giving medicine to students who take medicine at school, and providing care and support for students who are sick. All of this does not include the basic clerical functions like sending emails, answering phone calls, general customer service at the counter to families and the general public, supporting teachers, ordering and receiving supplies, filing, preparing fliers, processing mail etc. Oh and did I mention that I am a 6 hour clerk? All of this is done daily and with such little compensation I feel underappreciated and devalued by my employer, even though I do a lot for our school site and our district.</p> <p>I think we just want what is fair and to be fairly compensated for our work. We were really happy to hear that there would be a classification survey report completed by the district, but were disappointed that the person leading this has resigned. Why aren't we using an outside agency on this instead of relying on one person from the district or having a team of people. It is frustrating and upsetting to say the least.</p> <p>I hope SCUSD will make the contracting with classified staff a higher priority because</p>

much of the functioning of the school site rests on our shoulders.

Regards,

Rachel Green

Sacramento City Unified School District
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Name:	Rucha Powers
School:	AM Winn TK-8 Public Waldorf
Agenda Item #	7.0

Comment: Hello,
I am not able to attend the meeting tonight due to be at my own children's back to school night, but I wanted to add my comment regarding the contract negotiations for SEIU. I am

I love my job, I love supporting students, families and teachers, but it feels discouraging and frankly degrading to do this amount of work for less than even the regional average hourly wage. This position does not have a built in career path and the salary steps are not significant enough to encourage longevity. What is the incentive for the talented women and men who serve in this position to stay with Sac City? Why are the front office staff, often referred to as some of the most important people for the day to day functioning at any school site, so underpaid and undervalued by SCUSD? Please consider the reality of our situation in your negotiations with SEIU.

Sincerely,
Rucha Powers

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Comments

Name:	Monica Tarbuskovich
School:	AM Winn Public Waldorf K-8
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>To SCUSD school board representatives,</p> <p>I am a caregiver with a daughter at AM Winn K-8. I am writing on behalf of the classified staff who support our teachers and most importantly, our kids.</p> <p>These people are our nutritional staff, who feed our children. They are our yard duties, the ones who build relationships and support our kids through the most important years of their lives when we can't be there. Our bus drivers, the only reason some of our kids can even get to school, our instructional aides who give our kids the necessary support they need, and so many more staff members who make our school whole.</p> <p>These irreplaceable members of school are the lowest paid and that is completely unacceptable. They deserve livable wages. They deserve healthcare. We have classified folks working on campus and beyond whose hours are kept just below the threshold to qualify for benefits. This is shameful.</p> <p>I am writing to ask you to give our classified staff the increase in pay they are asking for. Do NOT negotiate to the minimum accepted and for once do the right thing now. Provide them with the hours we know they are needed for, instead of forcing them to work overtime, allowing you to avoid paying benefits OR hiring the additional staff that's needed.</p> <p>AM Winn is more than a school. We are a community. Our community members stand up for each other when we're needed. We fully support our classified staff and encourage you to negotiate in good faith. Give them what they are asking for.</p>

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Name:	Bethany Cox
School:	A.M. Winn
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>I am a Special Education teacher in an SDC classroom. It is very important for our aides to be present for the whole day. It is incredible disruptive to our rhythm and community for our support to leave before the students. There is currently no built in time to reflect and discuss the day with my assistant, and no time to catch her up on students and school information, which she needs to do her job well. At this point, we take unpaid time to do these things, and that is just not right. If it is part of the job, they should be paid to do it. These classified positions are the glue that keeps our little school universes running. These are essential to our students and communities mental health. Yard duties, food service workers, office personnel, custodial staff, our schools wouldn't function without them, and they deserve to be compensated duly. They deserve a fair wage, livable hours, and they deserve health benefits. Please make a wise and just decision to create jobs that sorry people so that our communities in turn are supported. When the tide comes in, all the boats rise. Be the tide.</p>

**Sacramento City Unified School District
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Name:	Katie Smith
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0

Comment: I am a parent of three scholars in the district. I am writing on behalf of the classified staff who support our teachers and most importantly, our kids.

They are our nutritional staff, who feed our children. They are our yard duties, the ones who build relationships and support our kids. Our bus drivers, the reason some of our kids can even get to school, our instructional aides who give our kids the necessary support they need, and so many more staff members who make our school whole.

These irreplaceable members of school are the lowest paid and that is completely unacceptable. They deserve livable wages. They deserve healthcare. There are classified folks working on campus and beyond whose hours are kept just below the threshold to qualify for benefits. This is shameful. All instructional aids should be paid and present during all hours that children are in school. They should be included in staff meetings and respected for the integral role they play in our children's education. Some of these staff members are our children's safe pla q4/((el)-16 (y)16 ()TJETq137.4 1 4 (t)-21)3 (i).e,2 (e)4

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Name:	Margee Burch
School:	AM Winn
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I am a parent with a child at AM Winn, writing on behalf of the classified staff.</p> <p>Classified staff literally make our communities run. If we didn't have janitors, our schools would smell of rotten garbage. If we didn't have yard duties, our children would be hurt on the playground with no one to turn to. If we didn't have bus drivers, families would have no ways of getting their children to school. This is just a small cross section of the required work that our classified staff do on a daily basis to make sure our school runs.</p> <p>These irreplaceable members of school are the lowest paid and that is completely unacceptable. They deserve livable wages. They deserve healthcare. We have classified folks working on campus and beyond whose hours are kept just below the threshold to qualify for benefits. This is shameful.</p> <p>I am writing to ask you to give our classified staff the increase in pay they are asking for. Do NOT negotiate to the minimum accepted and for once do the right thing now. Provide them with the hours we know they are needed for, instead of forcing them to work overtime, allowing you to avoid paying benefits OR hiring the additional staff that's needed.</p> <p>AM Winn is more than a school. We are a community. Our community members stand up for each other when we're needed. We fully support our classified staff and encourage you to negotiate in good faith. Give them what they are asking for.</p> <p>Thank you, Margee</p>

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Name:	Timothy Hebert
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0

Comment:

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Name:	Shamica Hutt
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>We need our children safe at school, the district removed the SRO from the schools now our students are not safe while at school. The district knows they are short staffed, which means students aren't safe. If the district it short staffed that means less staff in case of an emergency or delayed response time. The SRO bring a presence of safety and structure. Although, it won't stop everything, it will defer a lot of drama. Even if they can't be there all day, right now, atleast 2 officers at each school after school and during lunch. Our tax dollars have provided the last superintendent to make more than the United States president, yet the district is failing and extremely unsafe. If students don't feel safe, its hard to focus on learning, and it is their right to learn in a safe environment, which is not being provided, since the SRO have been removed. Most of the board members don't have children in the district they are elected over, and the ones that do go to the best. All our children should be treated as elected officials children, and have access to a safe learning environment. There is so much wasteful spending, and not enough being done to ensure the student a chance at a great future. Let's get the SRO back.</p>

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Name:	Tammy Smith
School:	AM Winn and Albert Einstein
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	<p>I am writing in support of Classified Staff as they renegotiate their contract. I strongly urge you, at the bare minimum, to grant them the 6% increase in pay that they are asking for.</p> <p>These staff are vital to our schools. They are the lowest paid and are often given too few hours earn the money they need to survive, qualify for the benefits that they deserve (and that would make their wages go much further), or do their jobs in ways that meet the needs of the students they serve. These staff members often work several jobs to meet the needs of their families AND work outside of their contracts at the schools they serve in order to meet the needs of their students.</p> <p>Parents and students want and deserve to have our schools staffed with people who are treated with respect and are provided with the resources they deserve. Please also consider giving existing staff more hours so that they they can earn enough money to focus on their jobs at SCUSD instead of also having to take on additional jobs; so that they can qualify for benefits that support their families and give them a reason to stay with the district instead of looking for another job that will better meet their financial needs; so that they can do their jobs appropriately (ex. Instructional Aides should be contracted for the full amount of hours that students are in class plus an extra hour to help with transitions before and after school)</p> <p>Our family was really encouraged to see that the SCUSD was able to come to an agreement with Certificated Staff that honored everybody's needs. We hope very much to see the same thing happen for our Classified Staff.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

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Comments

Name:	Melanie Bean
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0

Comment: "Your silence will not protect you" is a quote by the late Black, Queer poet Audre Lorde, and your silence, SCUSD board, is not protecting our students and families.

In the past month, Dry Creek, Rocklin, and Buckeye Union school districts have all adopted the Chino Valley School District's parental rights policy that endangers our LGBTQ+ youth and families.

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Name:	Katrena Blackshire Lee
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	7.0
Comment:	The school lunches are not being properly prepared. I would like more fulling breakfast options at school sites.

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Comments

Name:	Suzanna George
School:	Theodore Judah Elementary ASES program

Agenda 7.0
Item #