



May 10, 2019

Honorable Tony Thurmond
California Superintendent of Public Instruction
California Department of Education
1430 N. Street
Sacramento CA 95814-5901

Re: Request to Create a "Budget Solutions Committee" in Sacramento City Unified School District

Dear Superintendent Thurmond:

As you know, the Sacramento City Unified School District is on the brink of fiscal insolvency. This situation is exacerbated by a prolonged labor dispute that originates to at least December 2017, when our current collective bargaining agreement was approved.

Without revisiting how we got here, as leaders of the Sacramento City Teachers Association--and on behalf of 2800 certificated educators who work in the Sacramento City Unified School District--we are requesting your help to avoid both a strike scheduled for May 22, and perhaps more importantly an impending state takeover of the district.

It is our understanding that prior to state takeover, the Fiscal Crisis Management and Assistance Team (FCMAT) will be assigned to determine the size of a potential state loan to address the impact of the insolvency. At the time of that intervention, FCMAT may exercise its discretion to make recommendations if it is determined that a takeover may be avoided.

We are suggesting that something akin to the process be undertaken well ahead of FCMAT's sizing a potential loan--potentially eliminating the need to seek a loan in the first place.

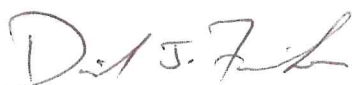
Given the strained relationship between SCTA and SCUSD, we would strongly support and welcome participating in a "Budget Solutions Committee" chaired by Mike Fine, the CEO of FCMAT. We suggest that such a committee should include representatives from the District (and the SCOE-appointed Fiscal Advisor), a representative from the Sacramento County Office of Education and SCTA. In addition, because of the central role our school district plays throughout the greater Sacramento community, we would further suggest that committee members include the business community (a representatives of the Sacramento Greater Sacramento Economic Council, and the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce), and labor (Yvonne Walker of Service

Employees International Union Local 1000 and Fabrizio Sasso of the Sacramento Central Labor Council) as well as Sacramento County Supervisor Phil Serna. Based on previous discussions and our sense of their sense of civic responsibility, we would hope that all the suggested representatives would participate for the greater good of Sacramento City students.

We are confident that in this setting we can find a viable solution to the Sac City budget crisis that allows for the full implementation of our current collective bargaining agreement, provided that consideration of all reasonable solutions is part of the discussion. Nevertheless, we have stated this publicly, and want to reiterate, that if all reasonable alternatives have been exhausted, then SCTA would consider re-opening our contract to avoid state takeover.

We know that as a strong advocate of both public schools and collective bargaining, your intervention would provide the critical balance of preserving the parties' collective bargaining agreement while protecting the long-term financial interests of our school district.

Sincerely,



David Fisher
President



Nikki Milevsky
First Vice President



Hasan McWhorter
Second Vice President



Cindee Stewart
Secretary



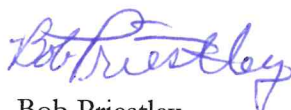
Laura Shirley
Treasurer



Catherine Boulos
Elementary Director



Angelia Brye-Jones
Elementary Director



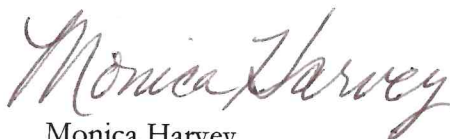
Bob Priestley
Middle School Director



Chesshuwa Beckett
High School Director



Nafeesah Young
Pupil Services Director



Monica Harvey
Special Ed Director



John Borsos
Executive Director