



February 5, 2019

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

*Re: Request for Investigation of Potential Misuse of Public Dollars and Conflict of Interest
at Sacramento City Unified School District*

Dear Superintendent Thurmond:

We represent nearly three thousand certificated educators in the Sacramento City Unified School District.

The Sacramento City Unified School District is on the brink of insolvency. As a result of the district's financial status, the California Fiscal Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) conducted a fiscal health risk analysis of the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD), which was issued in December 2018. The FCMAT inquiry was limited by statute and the report "focus[ed] on systems and processes that may need improvement." Despite its limited scope, the FCMAT analysis captured several serious, systemic problem areas in the district, citing "leadership issues" among the handful of "significant risk factors" in the district.

FCMAT did not, however, conduct a forensic audit of the Sacramento City Unified School District.

Additionally, SCTA has raised a number of concerns with SCUSD regarding the potential misallocation of district resources and has become aware of potential conflict of interest concerns regarding the conduct of Superintendent Jorge Aguilar.

By this letter **we hereby request that the California Department of Education (CDE) conduct an investigation into potential misallocation of district resources and the potential conflict of interest conduct of Superintendent Jorge Aguilar, as well as initiate a comprehensive audit perhaps supported by the California State Auditor of the Sacramento City Unified School District.**

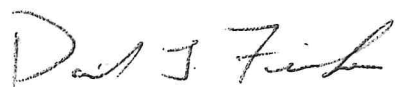
The concerns include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Superintendent Jorge Aguilar's outside employment creates a conflict of interest and violates school board policy;
2. Superintendent Jorge Aguilar has accepted honoraria in direct violation of school board policy;
3. The district's vacation buyout for administrators may involve staff being paid for work not performed, self-dealing on the part of certain district administrators, and the failure to report properly the cost of the buyout;
4. The district has refused to investigate or refer to CDE as required by school board policy concerns raised about the potential misappropriation of money at C.K. McClatchy High School;
5. The district has refused to investigate thoroughly or refer to CDE the alleged misuse of Site Improvement Grant dollars from Hiram Johnson High School;
6. The district has refused to investigate thoroughly the practice of the former principal of New Technology High School to hold a second, paid job while he was scheduled to be performing services for the district at the same time, and that this practice was carried out with the knowledge and consent of senior administrative officials; the district also failed to investigate thoroughly or refer to CDE the alleged misconduct of the same former principal of New Technology High School who was alleged to have changed hundreds of student grades, including the transcripts of incoming students.

We do not raise these concerns lightly. Last year, for the first time in many years our district operated at budget deficit, and we believe that significant factors in that deficit were several of the highly questionable actions outlined above. As educators and parents of Sac City students we believe that it is imperative that the leadership of our district is beyond reproach and that our district operates with the highest level of integrity and transparency, particularly in the context of the larger financial challenges facing the district. Unfortunately, this does not appear to be the case.

Attached you will find a memo that provides supporting documentation of the concerns raised above. In addition, should it be necessary, we would be willing to meet with the appropriate California Department of Education staff to respond to any questions related to this request.

Sincerely,



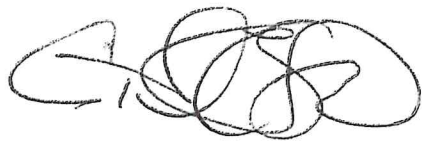
David Fisher
President



Nikki Milevsky
First Vice President



Hasan McWhorter
Second Vice President



Cindee Stewart
Secretary



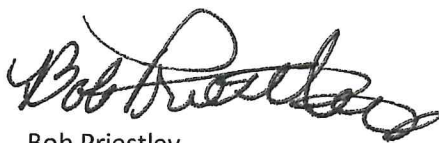
Laura Shirley
Treasurer



Catherine Boulos
Elementary Director



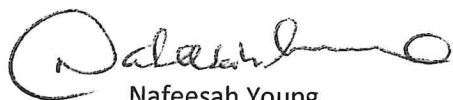
Angelia Brye-Jones
Elementary Director



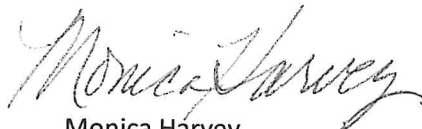
Bob Priestley
Middle School Director



Chesshuwa Beckett
High School Director



Nafeesah Young
Pupil Services Director



Monica Harvey
Special Ed Director



John Borsos
Executive Director