

Timestamp	My name is (first & last):	Do you have children attending OUSD schools?	Please list the Agenda Item Number and Topic your comment relates to. This is very important as it will help us make your comment heard during the correct portion of the meeting.	Regarding the Agenda Item, do you	Please share your public comment:
7/14/2020 8:48:09 7/14/2020 16:51:16	Bradley Graham Alma Massey	Yes No	Comments on Return to school on July 23 Re-Opening of Schools	Support Issue Support Issue	Support of return to school full time on Campus Dear Members of OUSD Board, I hope you and your families are doing well and staying both safe and sane.  These are very strained times for us all and I know everyone is feeling a little raw these days. The issue of mandated use of masks and social distancing has become a very controversial one. However, I would like to request that when the OUSD Board meets to discuss OUSD's re-opening, that it considers science versus politics. I know you are aware of the studies which show how easily the COVID-19 virus can spread when groups gather without any protective measures, especially in enclosed areas.  I will leave the decision of opening or not opening up to the Board, I cannot imagine how difficult that decision is for all of you. My plea is that if the Board decides to open live classes, please consider the health and safety of our students and their families by placing required protective measures. It's a matter of science and education, not politics.  As President of the ELMO Education Foundation, I would also like to offer our help in any way possible at our school. Please let us know when and where we can assist with any safety measures necessary.  Thank you to the OUSD Board for your leadership during this incredibly difficult time and good luck,
7/15/2020 15:47:55	Deanna Kenemer	Yes	I support the return of children to classroom instruction in schools.	Support Issue	Alma Please let our children return to school. My three OUSD kids (ELMO and Panorama) suffered greatly last year staying home. Two didn't even continue work and gave up. We can't keep kids home and cause worse damage to them than if they went by causing depression, isolation, falling behind, and lack of socialization. Socialization is vitally important in the formative years and irreparably damaged in home isolation. There have been very few virus deaths (approx 500+) compared to 3-4 million people in our county in a very small, miniscule population of over 65 years of age and with comorbidities. This small vulnerable group should be the ones to wear masks to protect themselves. Most of these deaths are from Senior homes and facilities not single family homes like in our district. The fear spread from the news and has caused the community to have an erroneous concept of the danger in every day life. This is supposed to last two years. We can't continue to keep kids home for months or years. The district is supposed to do no harm and it is harming children to forbid them to go to schools where they learn, eat a healthy lunch, spend time forming friendships, learning communication skills, and benefiting from the many good role models that they many times don't get to see around their own homes. Most families have two working parents that will also be harmed if their child is kept from school. My children were A students and they suffered and struggled. We will lose children permanently if we leave them behind this fall. That is what will happen as we know what a failure became the last painful four month home instruction.
7/16/2020 9:26:04	jodie brennan	Yes	no agenda out right now	Oppose Issue	The OCBE voted to open schools and I 100% agree with their decision. All of the pediatricians across this country have said that it is safe for kids to go back to school. We need the schools to open up. The online learning is a farce, just a waste of time. if you don't open the schools then i promise that i will do everything in my power to figure out how to not only get my kids unenrolled in this school district, but will also encourage everyone to do the same. You are mentally and emotionally killing our kids. There are plenty of "homeschool" choices out there, and if i am going to have to "homeschool" because you put "distance learning" into place, then i might as well make sure that you don't get a cent for my children. Like i said, i will put together a form that tells other parents how to do the same thing as well so that there is no money going to OUSD.
7/20/2020 11:11:48	Lauren Paz Soldan	No	n/a	Oppose Issue	I am a teacher in OUSD starting my 4th year in the district. After reading the OUEA bargaining agreements, I'm angry you haven't settled the contract yet. I feel undervalued especially as I provided quality remote learning last semester while taking care of an infant and sick partner. Please work with the bargaining team to settle the contract with compensation to bring OUSD into line with surrounding districts and to attract and retain talented teachers for our students.
7/20/2020 11:28:23	Ashley Chang	No	Non-agenda item	Support Issue	I urge the district to settle the certificated 2019-2021 bargaining agreement WITH compensation. Our district was the ONLY district in Orange County to start Distance Learning immediately after the governor closed schools on March 13, 2020. OUSD teachers were the ONLY teachers in Orange County that were online and doing distance learning teaching on Monday 16, 2020. The district wants us to have the OUSD Edge and the teachers did that. The district should show their respect for all of the hard work the teachers did in ONLY 3 days by reaching a settlement for the 2019-2021 bargaining agreement BEFORE the 2020-2021 school year begins.  Additionally, our district is towards the bottom of the pay scale for teachers in regards to salary of neighboring districts. OUSD wants to have an Edge, so our teachers should be #1 on the pay scale. Please encourage and reward teachers for stepping up to that Edge; especially for the past few months of emergency Distance Learning. Thank you.
7/20/2020 11:37:51	Kim Meier	No	N/A	Oppose Issue	OUSD has not negotiated any salary increase for teachers for the 2019-2020 school year, which is now behind us. For that school year, the district received a 3.26% COLA increase as well as K-3 and 9-12 grade span adjustments to ADA. To date, none of that has been passed on to teachers, the face of education for the district's students. As you are asking teachers to continue moving forward with planning for the NEW SCHOOL YEAR with a few different configurations in mind, I am asking the school board to direct the district bargaining team to schedule another meeting with OUEA and put forth a compensation proposal to settle LAST YEAR'S negotiations.
7/20/2020 11:57:16	nancy bower	No	Compensation/ 2019-20 Contract	Support Issue	As a 34 year veteran OUSD teacher, I ask that you settle the 2019-2020 contract and compensate teachers in a manner comparable to similar surrounding districts. OUSD teachers were online and teaching via distance learning on Monday 16, 2020 with only the weekend to prepare. We are a dedicated group of educators and we deserve to be compensated for our hard work and dedication to our students.

7/20/2020 13:33:19	Lori Glasky	No	Not on agenda- Teacher Negotiations	Support Issue	I am a product of Orange schools, and I switched to teaching in Orange Unified in 2003, so I could be with my children. I have two credentials with a Master's and work tirelessly for all students in my class, especially kids with special needs. I spend thousands on my classroom and quickly moved over a weekend to teach virtually that very first Monday with passion and dedication. Every single day I was online with my students, calling them, Facetime, creating videos, planning with my grade level, attending professional development, reading bedtime stories, dropping off books at their house, talking to parents late at night who had to work during the day, and so much more without any compensation anywhere near most of our neighboring districts. I am still in contact with students who want summer learning opportunities. Seventeen years ago I came to this district from Brea Unified. The month after I left my name was spoken on one of THEIR blue cards because by switching to OUSD, I was actually making more than I was in Brea, even with losing years on the salary schedule. Boy, have the times changed. Over the years, Brea has tried to rectify its salary schedule. I am angry that I am not valued as much as the teachers in Brea are from their Board. It's the time to settle on the 2019-2020 contract with compensation and value for what we do as teachers.
7/20/2020 17:10:57	Nicole Barlow	Yes	G	Support Issue	My son attends La Veta elementary. To my knowledge, La Veta only has only one part-time school counselor, which from my perspective is woefully inadequate. During quarantine, there was zero attempt made by my son's teacher or administrators to address the mental health toll the pandemic has taken on him. How does OUSD plan to improve mental health outreach and make emotional wellness part of the curriculum, particularly for students with special needs or sensitivities?
7/20/2020 17:54:59	Victoria Zucker	No	unknown	Oppose Issue	It is reprehensible that teachers are still negotiating for a contract year that has already passed. I am urging the district to reach an agreement on the 2019-2020 contract with compensation. We need to be adequately compensated for keeping OUSD on the cutting "EDGE" especially compared to other districts that did not begin distance learning right away as we did. We immediately rose to the challenge within three days and over one weekend, without district guidance on exactly how to do that. Other districts were proactive in providing teachers with a specific platform and specific corresponding trainings. We also necessarily took on tech support for all of our students and their families even though it does not lie within the teacher's purview. If OUSD wants to "remain committed to...providing a higher quality education during these challenging times", as stated by Superintendent Hanson, then OUSD needs to fairly compensate the teachers who are doing the actual implementation of said high quality instruction. Teachers are the ones on the front lines making the district look good!
7/20/2020 18:02:26	Jayme Ghoulam	No	Contract Negotiations	Oppose Issue	I am a current OUSD Special Education teacher, and I wanted to share with you my frustration with the fact that contract negotiations, particularly in the area of compensation, for the 2019-2020 school year have still not concluded. Over night, teachers in this district changed the face of instruction delivery, dedicating countless hours- well outside of regular work day hours- to ensure that our students and families were supported, and that learning would continue and would be meaningful. Mornings, afternoons, evenings and nights were spent learning online platforms, locating resources and materials, driving to student homes to deliver devices and materials, emailing/calling/messaging with parents at all hours to support them not only with the stress of distance learning, but also with the stress of supporting their children emotionally during times of uncertainty. All of this in addition to many of us having our own children at home participating in distance learning, and trying to support our own families, and ourselves, emotionally. Most of our comparable districts have completed negotiations for the 2019-2020 school year, with the inclusion of increased compensation for staff. They acknowledged the hours, work, sweat, and yes- tears, that teachers put in to ensure their students would succeed. As we prepare to launch into distance learning for the Fall, rest assured teachers will be working round the clock, yet again, striving to meet the needs of each and every one of their students in these challenging times. The time has come to sit down at the table, thank the educators for all that they have done- and continue to do- and discuss the increased compensation that is deserved. I thank you for your time and for the opportunity to have my thoughts shared.
7/20/2020 23:57:14	Victor Juan	Yes	3 reopening of schools	Support Issue	Yes
7/21/2020 0:02:44	Victor Juan	Yes	2 School Reopening	Support Issue	Disregard my other comment. I wanted to ask two questions. 1) If schools are able to reopen to in person teaching a few months into the school year will it be a cautious phase in that would take weeks or months. 2) What are the procedures of a teacher tests positive for COVID after in person teach resumes? Is the whole class to be quarantined? Is there a substitute teacher waiting in the wings?
7/21/2020 6:29:53	Morgan Nelson	Yes	7. G. Reimagining Schools Plan	Oppose Issue	I have a TK and first grade student enrolled in OUSD this year. While the governor is not requiring face masks for kids younger than grade 2, I hope OUSD will think outside the box and have the younger kids wear face shields. These are well tolerated by young children and would protect teachers and staff and the district in general from outbreaks in the lower grades that would serve to close the schools and possibly the district per the governor's order. Additionally, I am supportive of an online TK option should the schools start remotely this year. The obvious goal is for all kids to return to in person learning and there are steps we can take to ensure that we can open safely and reduce the chances of closure. If the younger children are not required to wear a mask or face shield, this will ultimately impact the viability of in person learning district wide and I ask OUSD to be proactive in this regard. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 7:57:50	Cyndi Braxton	Yes	Not a topic on the agenda.	Support Issue	The entire OUSD board are cowards for NOT standing up for our school children! Shame on Gunn Marie for being a weak leader. You claim to be advocates for our school children but you are verifiably not. Regardless of what the tyrant Gavin Newsom unlawfully has ordered, we MUST re-open our schools for our children. It is imperative if we TRULY want to save our school youth. More school youth have died of suicide because of the lockdown. Zero children have died of the virus. The lockdown is causing depression, anxiety, mental health problems and high rates of suicide amongst our school youth. The California State Constitution guarantees an education for our children. The U.S. Constitution and the California Constitution are NEVER suspended, not even during a health crisis. We have already filed the necessary paperwork and our attorneys are naming Orange Unified School District and every staff member of OUSD in our lawsuit. We are going to win because the U.S. Constitution is on our side. You will lose. Actually our school youth are the ones losing their education and more importantly their lives.

7/21/2020 10:24:19	Jim Aichelman	Yes	Online learning for the fall	Support Issue	<p>I understand why we are doing online learning for the fall, and I will do everything I can to support my child and my school. I expect the Orange school district to support my school as well. In the Spring of 2020, we were all challenged by the fact that it was all of our first time doing online learning, and so it wasn't the best learning experience. Specifically: there was no adjustment made by my child's Mandarin teacher for the new circumstances. It seems to me that online learning lends itself pretty well to language instruction - each student could, theoretically, have 5 to 10 minutes alone with a teacher to have a conversation in the target language. Instead, my teacher was, literally, at the beach one day, doing her lesson with her phone, which consisted of her pointing out stuff at the beach in English. I had a conversation with my principal, who handled the situation well, but the teacher (who has left my school) continued to do a poor job. How are we to deal with teachers that refuse to adjust to the current circumstances? Also: many students in my child's math class were falling behind in their assignments, necessitating the teacher to have "catch-up weeks" during which no new assignments were given. I can only assume that, when the year was done, many students had failed to complete the year's curriculum. How are we going to avoid this from happening this year? Finally: what extra resources is the Board giving my school to support it in its mission to provide a quality online education. Please be specific.</p>
7/21/2020 11:10:26	Ed Zubiate	Yes	Brenda Lebsack communication	Oppose Issue	<p>My name is Ed Zubiate.  I have a grandson at Nohl Canyon Elementary and a granddaughter who is also a District student.  I am a retired employee of the Los Angeles Unified School District.  I was a teacher, a District Advisor, an Assistant Principal, a middle school Principal, and a high school Principal. When I retired I was the Principal at Fairfax high school.  I am Mexican-American. I am a veteran. I'm am a married father of two.  I am writing in regard to Brenda Lesback's "Food for thought" communication.  My first thought was to wonder what the consequences would have been for me, as a public official, if I had ever written and broadcast a letter such as Ms. Lesback's. I am pretty sure that I would have faced some degree of discipline. And very likely the loss of my position.  My second thought is that sarcasm is not an excuse for such hurtful rhetoric.  Let me be clear. Primarily I don't care about Ms Lesback's ignorant and white supremacist viewpoint. I'm not optimistic that she will ever change. What I care about is the victims it creates. And the people who quietly let it pass unaddressed.  As fellow Board members it is your responsibility to care for all of your constituents. If you remain silent then you are complicit. And share her quilt.  I am 72 years old and I can't help but fretfully wonder when our country will begin to collectively explore the reasons why people (especially those that are charged with representation of all their constituents) find it so easy to shame marginalized people in any manner.  I am respectfully asking each Board member to please be a part of the solution. It is time for everyone to truly understand the meaning of "equal rights". Please help us all in this difficult pursuit of happiness.  No one should feel that it is okay to be this kind of angry, so hurtful, and so sarcastically shameful  Thank you  Ed Zubiate.</p>
7/21/2020 11:33:19	Marcia Brown	Yes	G. Re-imagining Schools Plan	Support Issue	<p>I am a parent of 2 girls that attend Villa Park High School. Since March, when the schools closed down my daughters have become anxious, detached, angry and depressed. Social isolation is crippling our community and it is especially affecting our kids. The rate of depression among teens has greatly increased since this pandemic began, and all schools were shut down. Suicide is the second leading cause of deaths among adolescents ages 12 to 17. A classmate of my youngest daughter took his own life just two weeks ago. At the candlelight vigil, my daughter commented on the bitter irony that it was the first time she had seen her classmates since mid-March. This was an unspeakable tragedy that breaks my heart!</p> <p>Our students need the face-to-face learning and personal interaction with their peers and teachers that is a healthy part of growing up. I think it's time to balance the facts about COVID-19 with the facts of how this isolation is affecting our kids. With the steps that the District has already taken to disinfect the schools, implement regular hand-washing and other safe practices, I feel that it is time to open up again! I respectfully request that you allow schools to open and offer parents the choice of having their kids learn in a traditional classroom setting or remotely at home. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 11:53:13	Madison Miner	Yes	Public comment	Support Issue	<p>I grew up attending OUSD schools and I support charter schools and school choice in general. My children are healthy and eager learners and trust me, they need an educator - not their mom - teaching them. Tradition instruction in a school setting helps give children, particularly the underprivileged, more choices and better educations. Let's get our economy back!</p>
7/21/2020 11:59:15	Madison Miner	Yes	Public comment	Support Issue	<p>I grew up attending OUSD schools and I support charter schools and school choice in general. My children are healthy and eager learners and trust me, they need an educator - not their mom - teaching them. Tradition instruction in a school setting helps give children, particularly the underprivileged, more choices and better educations. Let's get our economy back!</p>
7/21/2020 12:12:49	Andrea Bakker	Yes	Public comment	Support Issue	<p>I support OCCA and their mission for the school. It follows the style of teaching I want to instill into my children. I agree with all of their core values and teaching style.</p>
7/21/2020 13:01:19	Jane Brashears	No	7G	Oppose Issue	<p>Thank you for your countless hours of hard work on behalf of our students and teachers in the city of Orange during this extremely challenging time. As a retired, California public school teacher, I would like to encourage the board to reconsider the use of face shields for all students, especially the younger students (TK-3rd). Not only do they provide protection against COVID-19, face shields are more comfortable to wear, require less touching of the face, and allow for a more positive emotional/social interaction between fellow students and teachers.  Thank you for your consideration of this matter.</p>

7/21/2020 14:49:52	Tonda Fields	Yes	Item G	Oppose Issue	<p>My name is Tonda Fields. My daughter is due to start her educational journey this fall as a TK student.</p> <p>I have been following the pandemic and response from OUSD very closely. At the board meeting last month, I was shocked and saddened to hear multiple board members rave about the OCBE "expert panel" and "data" that was presented. As I write this, the city of Orange has an infection rate of 1 in 98 residents. Anyone that believes schools should reopen status quo is not taking this seriously.</p> <p>I was also concerned that at the June meeting, the recommendations presented did not include masks and/or face shields. When board member Erickson questioned the use of masks and asked her colleagues if they could all at least agree masks should be optional, one additional board member (Ledesma) agreed. Everyone else was silent!</p> <p>Your silence speaks volumes! It is hard for me to trust that the board majority has the best interests of students and teachers in mind.</p> <p>When schools are able to reopen, I implore you to create options that work for everyone. Create a geographically neutral learning option for those parents that want to send their kids back to the classroom when THEY feel comfortable. As it stands now, without a geographically neutral learning option, my TK student would be left out as Parkside Education Center does not offer a TK program.</p> <p>This board can and should do better for all of the students, parents, faculty and staff in the OUSD.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Sincerely, Tonda Fields</p>
7/21/2020 15:09:04	Brian Brooks	No	OCCA Board Member Appreciation	Support Issue	<p>I would like to thank board members Brenda Lebsack, Rick Ledesma, John Ortega, and Alexandria Delegianni for their recent approval of the OCCA charter school. As a former OUSD student and resident of Orange, I'm glad that my hometown is standing up for school choice in way that encourages an increasingly popular form of learning-- classical education. Because of the courage and commitment of these members, Orange now has a brand new charter school which has just been approved for increased enrollment at a beautiful local campus. Students will be taught to develop the school's Six Pillars (responsibility, respect, courage, courtesy, honesty, and citizenship) in order to help them develop their moral character and civic virtue. The excitement in the air among parents, students, and faculty is palpable and I wanted to thank these members for the brave stance they took by putting family needs above all else.</p>
7/21/2020 15:59:43	Aerin Bang	Yes	3.1	Support Issue	<p>Hi, I am a mom, having two precious kids. I strongly support OCCA and their mission. To be a student of OCCA, I have transferred school from Buena Park school district. When I explained to my kids about what and how this school will teach them, they really got excited for it. Although we do not live in city of Orange, we do have willing to move to Orange if we need. We are so happy that this awesome charter school is placed in city of Orange. We really looking forward to go back to school in August! We thank all the Board of Trustees for voting to support our school, OCCA.</p>
7/21/2020 16:12:51	Mary McCullough	No	non-agenda item	Oppose Issue	<p>I am writing to express my concern that the certificated contract has not been settled for the 2019-2020 school year. In the most recent bargaining update, the district bargaining team was quoted as saying, "we don't know if the timing is right". This statement makes me, like the contract, unsettled. The contract represents the rights, salary, and professional expectations of certificated staff. The certificated staff of the Orange Unified School District have every right to expect that a contract will be settled in a timely way. Both bargaining teams, OUEA and OUSD, are bargaining on behalf of hundreds of people. Indicating that the time is not right for us to have our contract updated and settled in terms of salary, work conditions, hours, etc. does not show me that OUSD is bargaining in the best interests of its certificated staff.</p>
7/21/2020 16:52:29	Isabel Wilson	Yes	2020-2021 reopening	Support Issue	<p>Dear Superintendent Hansen and board members,</p> <p>I am a soon-to-be 11th grader at Canyon High School, and I am writing to you to tell you why I believe that OUSD's schools should reopen with in-person instruction this fall. This would have both short-term and long-term benefits for students, teachers, and parents alike.</p> <p>As a former homeschooling student, I am experienced with online learning, but the same cannot be said for most of my classmates. Many of them struggled to adapt, and even I had some difficulties with the sudden change. Furthermore, I know from personal experience that the mental and emotional health of students benefits greatly from an in-person school environment and interaction with both other students and teachers. Finally, in-person learning has many academic benefits, including being able to ask teachers questions as they arise and being able to talk over challenging concepts with someone else.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my opinion in your decision. I strongly hope that you will choose to have OUSD resume face-to-face instruction.</p> <p>Sincerely, Isabel Wilson Canyon High School, grade 11</p>
7/21/2020 17:39:46	jenny patterson	No	attack on OCCA and other charter schools	Support Issue	<p>After sending my children to private schools I am very supportive of school choice for every one. Your children will have the advantages of private school setting, yet affordable for anyone who would like to go. This is inherently allows positive progress for any child not just those who can afford it. Everyone wants the best schooling for their child. It allows some control on the education they are getting and future success of that child. OCCA has this in mind and we support this school. My Grand children will be going here.</p>

7/21/2020 18:15:21	Leslie Wilson	Yes	Reopening schools in August 2020	Support Issue	<p>I am the mom of a soon-to-be 11th grader at Canyon High School. I want the Board to know how very important it is to our family that school re-opens for in-person instruction in the fall. Until last year, my daughter was homeschooled. 10th grade at Canyon was her first time at an in-person school and it was a wonderful experience. She excelled academically, got involved in clubs, and made friends. The teachers, staff, and administration of CHS truly care about the students, and it shows. I'm aware that re-opening will be challenging and will involve some risks. I know OUSD, with community support, can do it. I beg you to do it, for my child and all the other children who need and love school. For my part, I am willing to volunteer at the school for as many hours as needed, to help in any capacity needed. I have an Emergency Substitute Credential and am willing to register/apply as a sub to help support the students and teachers in that manner as well. I know I'm not the only parent willing to do what it takes to open the schools this fall. I hope you'll give us the opportunity. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 18:22:59	Jin Yi	Yes	Trustee Lebsack	Oppose Issue	<p>Dear OUSD board,</p> <p>My name is Jinah Yi. I am a parent in OUSD. I am very sad to see accusations directed at Trustee Lebsack for her satire that only reveals the truth about Identity Politics being promoted through CTA. She was not serious about wanting these type of salaries, but was demonstrating how ridiculous identity politics is. Her satire did not attack ANYONE, rather it exposed an ideology. I am an immigrant who came from Korea. I serve many Korean families in Orange County through Children's Ministries. Many Asians came here for a better life in America. Many risked their lives to escape a Communistic Regime. Communism uses propaganda to control people's thinking. They control the media outlets and distort truth. They are mass manipulators for the sake of governmental oppression. They turn kids against their parents. I have lived in America for two decades and I can tell you, we are tip toeing on the edge of socialistic communism. This breaks my heart for America. The unions are behind these beliefs and yet teachers are too busy to notice. Teachers might think their union protects them, but when oppression ripens, no one is immune from its captivity. You criticize Trustee Lebsack for talking about "unlimited gender choices" in the curriculum. You think it's NOT a big deal and for her to bring it up is "hateful". Well comrades, you are out of touch, because FOR PARENTS. It is a VERY BIG DEAL and telling the truth is never hateful. The union and state want to indoctrinate our young impressionable, imaginative, trusting children that they can be BOTH genders, NEITHER gender or anything in between and this CHOICE is all based on their FEELINGS. The teachers' union deceptively calls this "INCLUSION", when actually it is "CONFUSION" and "DELUSION".</p> <p>Trustee Lebsack notified the Asian Community of this. She advocated for us when the Calif Dpt of Ed would only provide the New Health Framework in English and denied access to our non-fluent Asian parents. Trustee Lebsack asked the Teachers Union for support, but they ignored her. Why did they ignore this discrimination against Asians? Because they do not want opposition. Our voices are only valued when we agree and do as they say. They know we come from a traditional culture, but that is not respected, because they feel they know "what's best for us". The teachers union only believes in "equity" when it benefits their educational agenda for OUR CHILDREN. Yes, OUR CHILDREN. If they think we will easily relinquish our God Given rights as parents, because we NEED our kids "educated", they have underestimated the power of immigrants. Immigrants are resilient. We have gone through hard time to achieve our citizenship in a FREE LAND. We will not acquiesce when we see oppression encroaching, especially when it impacts our most precious children.</p> <p>Trustee Lebsack should be commended not scorned. The truth can offend, but it also brings change and that is what is needed ... EDUCATION REFORM!!</p>
7/21/2020 18:37:11	Simon Taylor	Yes	3.1	Support Issue	<p>I am an immigrant, a resident of OUSD, and a believer in the mission of OUSD and I want to thank you board members for your service to this community and dedication to upholding the highest of standards of education for our children.</p> <p>I applaud the school board's choice to approve the launch of this school and ask that the board approve the CUP as a demonstration to their continued commitment to racial justice and social equality.</p> <p>For too long, parents in lower income neighborhoods across the country have been forced to put their children in their local school that in many instances does not perform as well as other schools in the broader district. This historical zoning approach, as logical and well-intentioned as it may have been at its conception, unfairly disadvantages ethnic minorities and has become a form of systemic racism. As a result, I was greatly encouraged when the board voted to launch this charter school.</p> <p>I stand for the rights of ethnic minorities, for equality, and for fairness in our education system, as I know each of you do as well - therefore I look forward to the board approving the school to operate at its full capacity, which of course would merely be in line with the board's previous decision to approve the school launch in the first place.</p> <p>The parent community is united and well-connected and we look forward to supporting those that champion equality and racial justice come November 3rd, while vehemently opposing those who do not.</p>

7/21/2020 19:56:24	Cecil J Howell	Yes	non-agenda. Trustee Lebsack	Support Issue	<p>I have been seeing a lot of back and forth about Brenda regarding a comment she recently made online, which was an obvious attempt at satire.</p> <p>Lets start with the basics, satire is, "humor, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticize people's stupidity or vices.". So, perhaps some of you thought it was funny, while other did not. Perhaps some of you understood it, while others did not. Either way, what satire is NOT is to be taken literally nor used as a basis to discredit a body of work as it pertains to the education, cultivation and protection of our kids that would put the vast majority of you to shame,</p> <p>This meaning, that while many seem very able to take pot shots from the shadows and condemn her, your collective actions cannot hold a candle to her body of hard work and sacrifice Mrs. Lebsack has made for the sake of our kids. Simply, I ask you WHAT HAVE YOU DONE to stand for what you believe? All of her detractors if you would please stand up and be seated if I list something you have NOT done:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; How many Children have you taught in your lifetime?</li> <li>&gt; How many times have you run for a seat on the board of education to be the difference that you wanted to see in the world?</li> <li>&gt; How many YouTube videos have you made to take a stand for what you believe and protect kids that are not your own?</li> <li>&gt; How many articles have you written with this same goal?</li> <li>&gt; How many of you have written your senator or visited the capital t to fight for (or against) legislation with this same goal?</li> <li>&gt; How many hundreds of hours of your "free" time have you dedicated to the cause of protecting kids...that are not even yours? Protecting the rights of parents whom you do not know and will never meet?</li> <li>&gt; How many thousands of dollars have you spent in pursuit of this same goal?</li> <li>&gt; How many of you who claim she is prejudiced have reach out to minority groups across the aisle to create alliances to protect even more children that are not you own, including Muslims</li> </ul> <p>I am sure that not one of you is left standing, metaphorically or otherwise. And it is fitting that you should sit down and be quiet now, because now, it is time for action; action that speaks much louder than all words combined (including Brenda's attempt at satire).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; I am "black". Brenda is "white".</li> <li>&gt; I am Muslim. Brenda is Christian"</li> <li>&gt; I am a single dad with young kids. She is a grandmother with grown kids.</li> <li>&gt; I am an internationallv experienced first generation American. She is US born and bred.</li> </ul>
7/21/2020 20:45:37	Lucy Lundell	No	N/A	Oppose Issue	<p>My name is Lucy Lundell. I'm a recent graduate from Orange High School and the 2019-2020 OHS Student School Board Representative. The recent actions of board member Ms. Brenda Lebsack are upsetting, but unfortunately not out of character. In a previous board meeting, I witnessed her interject bigoted commentary after an OUSD student shared her experience as an LGBTQ+ student and asked the district to do more to support students like her. Not only was this extremely disrespectful to the student, but it was also against the rules. This is one of many instances where Brenda has interjected her own political agenda into the discussion without attempting to show empathy or compassion for the students and families in our diverse district.</p> <p>The letter she sent to our Teachers and was later published publicly demonstrates her intent to erase the experiences of LGBTQ+ students and students of color.</p> <p>It is Ms. Lebsack's job as a nonpartisan, elected official to acknowledge, accurately represent, and communicate the diverse issues and needs of EVERYONE in our district. Sadly, she seems to be falling extremely short, putting the health, education, and safety of students at risk. Her behavior makes OUSD appear to have a hostile environment, when that isn't who we are or what we want to be.</p> <p>Her partisan and hurtful rhetoric is preventing the district's ability to provide safe, comprehensive, and innovative education for all students.</p> <p>Brenda, this school board is NOT the place for bigoted and fear-mongering rhetoric. As a student, I am disappointed. As a voter, I am eager to vote you off this board. The students deserve better, the families deserve better, and our district deserves better.</p>

7/21/2020 23:37:03	Linda Horist	Yes	Non agenda item	Support Issue	<p>Good evening President Ortega, Board, Supt. Hansen and staff.</p> <p>My name is Linda Horist, and I have been an OUSD Teacher for 21 years. I proudly share that all 3 of my own children graduated from OUSD schools. As a 2014 California Teacher of the Year and member of the California Teacher of the Year Selection Board for 5 years, I have become very familiar with the inner workings of most all of our 50+ California School Districts.</p> <p>I am standing virtually before you tonight (while watching and listening intently from home) to share that I am frustrated beyond measure that our district has yet to wrap up negotiations, specifically compensation, for the 2019-20 school year.....LAST YEAR!</p> <p>Honestly, I am at a loss trying to figure out why our VALUE AS TEACHERS is NOT being valued!!</p> <p>WE are the teachers who, with just a couple hours' notice on March 13, pulled together our students' entire collection of learning materials so that they would have everything they needed at home for a smooth transition to distance learning.</p> <p>WE are the teachers who in 2 days from that very same Friday, communicated and arranged for online Zoom meetings the following Monday, so we could connect and engage with our students, explaining our plans for their distance learning. WE are the teachers that Orange Unified School District touted statistics of having 96% of students engaged.</p> <p>WE are the teachers that were praised at board meetings and on social media for our hard work and dedication, being called HEROES for doing WHATEVER IT TOOK to stay connected with our families and students, and ensuring continued learning.</p> <p>It is now time for the OUSD School Board to be OUR heroes, to recognize OUR value, and to remember that as we move forward to a new school year, we will be under even more pressure, being asked ONCE AGAIN to work harder than ever, because we continue to be committed to do what you are asking of us: providing rigorous distance learning.</p> <p>We need our 2019-20 contract and compensation settled IMMEDIATELY so that our district has salaries that move BACK UP to the median range AND BEYOND when compared to similar districts.</p> <p>You call Orange Unified the district with the EDGE? Then give that same edge to your teachers.</p>
7/22/2020 8:16:14	Steve Mueller	No	7. B reopening negotiations with OUE	Support Issue	<p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Our teachers are some of the most dedicated and hardworking people I have ever had the pleasure to work alongside. When Covid-19 pandemic forced our schools to close, our teachers all made every effort to meet the short notice order to prepare for distance learning and I was teaching my students that following Monday. No other district can say that. We spend much of our "free" time insuring that our students receive the very best education possible given some very real limitations. If the Board truly believes as is often said that the most important factor in the success of students is the teacher up front teaching them, then they should make every effort to attract, retain, and encourage the very best teachers possible. I grew up in this district, attended its schools, and am proud to be a teacher. Sometimes I wonder if my leadership holds me in the same esteem as we teachers hold each other. As OUSD has the lowest paid teachers in comparable districts, should not every effort be made by this board to rectify that situation and show the most important factor in the success of students, its teachers, that they are in fact, valued. Other comparable districts have negotiated last year's contracts. Why not us? Thank you for your time.</p>
7/22/2020 8:30:59	Sarah Lee	Yes	We support OCCA!!	Support Issue	<p>Keep charter schools open and allow families to choose! Stop propagating Marxist agenda by silencing traditional, Western values. Silencing one group will silence the whole nation into submission! No one is safe including those who is suppressing choice!</p>

7/22/2020 9:44:06	Pam Velez	No	My comment is not an agenda item. You need to fix this form. If my comment does not address a topic listed on the agenda, the next question should include an option for that. I am not supporting or opposing an agenda item.	Oppose Issue	<p>Good evening, President Ortega, board members, Superintendent Hansen, and staff.</p> <p>My name is Pam Velez, and I have been an OUSD educator for 24 years. This is my first time addressing the board and feel that the waiting is over, and that my time has come.</p> <p>I am very disappointed that OUSD has not settled our contract regarding compensation for the 2019-2020 school year. This is disrespectful to the educators who work tirelessly for the students and families whom we all serve.</p> <p>This past spring, OUSD teachers sprang into action on a Friday afternoon when it was announced that we would not be returning to campus for two weeks. Most of my colleagues had online instruction up and running by Monday. That work took hours of time which will not be compensated. Why did we do it? We did it because we care about our students. Teachers dug deep into their own pockets during a very stressful financial time, to buy document cameras, adapters, subscriptions to online platforms, and other materials to deliver quality instruction. Why did we do it? We did it because we care about our students. This took money from our own families, and it will not be compensated.</p> <p>This fall we will most likely be teaching remotely once again. Teachers will put in far more hours than are contracted. Many of us will work 12-14 hour days, just as we did this past spring, and we will give the process our very best. These extra hours will not be compensated. Why do we do it? We do it because we care about our students.</p> <p>You have been telling our parents that OUSD has been working all summer to ensure that a quality education will be provided for all students this fall. You have been working, but so have the teachers even though it is our time off and, once again, our time will not be compensated.</p> <p>The time has come for OUSD to show respect for their educators and settle our 2019-2020 contract so that we may move on to our new year feeling valued and appreciated. The time has come for you to do what is right and to present our bargaining committee with a fair offer. We waited for the Governor's May revised budget, and we waited for the state's budget to be finalized. The waiting is over and the time has come for you to care about our students by respecting the very people who put in their time and hearts into those students.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
7/22/2020 11:00:36	Brian Harrington	Yes	Regarding reopening for the 2020-2021 school year	Support Issue	<p>My comment is regarding reopening schools. I'll get right to the point, reopening before a Covid-19 vaccine or treatment is available is reckless, irresponsible, and unacceptable. This disease is absolutely horrible, spreads like wildfire, has a massively high mortality rate, and severely impairs breathing function of those who 'recover'. It's a sad commentary that this public health crisis is being used as a political football by the self-interested. Follow the example of Taiwan, of New Zealand, of South Korea. Follow the science.</p> <p>That said, the distance learning deployed at the end of the last school year left much to be desired. My Kindergartner had less than 1 hour a week of instruction, parents were just expected to make up the difference. My 2nd grade had a little more attention, but not by much. Reality is that distance learning is the only acceptable option for 2020-2021, so get your act together. Master the technology so teachers know what to do. Set the schedule and stick to it. Redesign and rebuild the curricula with distance learning at the core. Focus on delivering quality education; rotate teachers, open grades up to more kids, get creative. And be ready by August 19.</p> <p>Parents are here to support your efforts, within reason. Most of us work; some of us are anxiously seeking work. We need to get our stuff done so the mortgage gets paid and the electricity stays on. Be aware of the burdens you are passing onto parents. We do not have free hours - especially during the business day.</p> <p>Lastly, it's simply insulting that this district set up a reopening committee that does not include parents. No, your survey was not sufficient outreach. We are the taxpayers, we are the ones who decide what's safe for our kids, and we choose the school system for our kids. You took the decision to ignore the same folks you claim as partners, the same folks you tap for volunteering, the same folks you tap for additional funds. Why?</p>
7/22/2020 11:03:18	Ed Richter	Yes	7 G. Re-Imagining Schools Plan	Oppose Issue	<p>The Re-Imagining School Plan is using parent survey data that was collected on June 3rd, prior to the recent spike in Covid-19 cases. The school district should seek to collect additional, updated survey data from parents and revise the report accordingly.</p> <p>The report makes no mention of the importance of masks. There are pictures of adults using them, but the district makes no statement about them in the report. The district needs to include a statement about their efficacy in a revised report.</p>
7/22/2020 11:28:19	James Kim	Yes	Public comment	Support Issue	<p>As parents of 2 young children who live in Villa Park, we are excited for the opening of OCCA and the excellent education they will receive there. We passionately support this school and its mission for excellence in academics and moral character regardless of economic status/income or race. We are thankful to be part of this school. We fully support charter schools and their offerings of educational choices for all types of students. OUSD already has 2 middle school charter schools but none for elementary or high school and believe this school will be a wonderful and valuable addition to the current charters in orange/Anaheim hills as well as the educational system in the OC area. We thank the board of trustees for voting to support the opening of OCCA! We believe this will positively impact the lives of the students and the community</p>



7/22/2020 11:46:20	Florice Hoffman	Yes	Its a general comment but involves agenda items B.C. D	Support Issue	<p>The OUSD is preparing for negotiations with OUEA. It is imprudent and possibly an illegal unfair practice under PERB for Board Member Lebsack to make public comments on the OUEA facebook page that are homophobic, racist and anti-union. Her comments could be a legal problem in negotiations unless the Board condemns her comments and informs OUEA that these are her personal opinion and are not that of the Board's. It also should be reinforced that her beliefs are contrary to the recent Supreme Court decision upholding LGBT rights and are in opposition to the laws of the United States and California law. As Board members you must publicly acknowledge that you support the law.</p> <p>As the parent of LGBT former students in the OUSD, I think its particularly offensive and not supported in science, the board member's position that being LGBT is a personal choice or preference. In addition, it continues the long history of this Board and the District's anti-LGBT of being sued by students for prohibiting a LGBT student club at our high schools. We cannot ignore that this kind of public comment continues the long history of violence against the LGBT community in this country and though out the world.</p> <p>As the mother and step mother of students of color, it is also offensive to the history of racism in this country and in this district to marginalize the history of racism in this country and in this county. My children attended Canyon High School when the principal dressed as a Mexican day and he dressed in a racist stereotyped manner. The Board member's comments provide fuel for white supremacy.</p> <p>In conclusion, this Board should have condemned these public comments because they are homophobic, racist and anti union.</p>
7/22/2020 12:23:50	Debi Brogdon	No	Res 04-20-21, item # 3	Oppose Issue	<p>My concerns are regarding student's being left behind: I have a granddaughter 9 years-old, going into 3rd grade, who has lost her open enrollment status @ Canyon Rim due to absenteeism and tardiness. This is her 4th consecutive year with this problem. Her mother has been counseled multiple times. However, parochial schools do not care (3 years there). To date she has not yet been enrolled in any school. With no follow-up the last 3 months of the past school year she is likely to fall way behind. This on-line study is NOT good for younger students. Bad actor parents need to be held accountable.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How will the district be monitoring these students to be sure all children are enrolled in a school?</li> <li>2. Will there be strict roll taking and monitoring to be sure student's are on line and on time for class? Including follow-up with parents and consequences?</li> <li>3. Will there be someone to physically visit the home to follow-up?</li> <li>4. We need to push back strongly for in person learning for younger students.</li> <li>5. How will you monitor children who are being neglected, mistreated, abused, etc. in their home settings?</li> <li>6. Children need exercise and sunshine daily for their mental and physical wellbeing. Who is monitoring this?</li> </ol> <p>I understand teachers and staff need to be protected. Young children are not the petri dish for this Covid-19, however, they are for the flu. Are you planning on closing schools again during the flu season? Teachers and support staff can wear a mask for their protection. These are the facts, not fear mongering. Who do parents go to in 8-10 year when their children are experiencing real problems from these decisions? Children are the future of our civilization, they need our help and support NOW. When we do get back to some form of in person learning, get the community involved. Parents, Grandparents, etc can volunteer to come in and help sanitize class rooms during play time and lunch. I would be very willing to help.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p> <p>A concerned Iovina Grand Mother</p>
7/22/2020 12:58:32	Crystal Tousignant	Yes	7-G	Support Issue	<p>I would like the Board to consider allowing students and teachers to have a socially distanced and safe, in person meeting to establish an actual relationship at the beginning of this new school year. The spring transition was difficult, but students and teachers had spent 6+ months together and were able to establish routines and understandings of one another's behaviors. If each class could have a 45 minute, outdoor, spaced and masked activity or something deemed appropriate, I believe it would go very far to assist with the social and emotional component of learning, especially at the primary/elementary levels. I would also like to request that teacher assignments be made known earlier than the standard night before school starts or morning of the first day and ask that teachers at a minimum, provide families with their daily schedule and expectations for the distance learning requirements of families. Parents need to be able to plan out the day to day, especially if they work or work outside the home. Arrangements for child care, tutoring, etc. need time to be made. Lastly, I am hoping that the Board and District will have contingencies for returning students back to campus when it is deemed safe and not keep students out of the classroom for longer than is necessary.</p>
7/22/2020 14:51:44	Stacey Strong Ortega	No	Non Agenda Item - Lebsack FB Post	Oppose Issue	<p>Dear OUSD Community,</p> <p>I have worked as teacher in OUSD for 20 years. I have dedicated my life to teaching students that THEY MATTER; no matter their race, gender identification, religion, sexual preference, etc.. Can you imagine my DISGUST after reading the disturbing public comments by Orange Unified School District School Board member Brenda Lebsack? In a listserv to OUSD emails and through a public Facebook post Mrs. Lebsack has demonstrated her racism, homophobia, divisiveness, and general ignorance towards the LGBTQ+ community and people of color.</p> <p>This post denotes a damaging bias towards our most vulnerable populations. We live in an incredibly stressful time and our students of color in California deal with disproportionately more socioeconomic challenges and a resource gap that affects achievement. Our LGBTQ+ students face higher risks of anxiety, depression, and suicide. How do Mrs. Lebsack's biases play out in the policy decisions she makes? How does her hatefulness reflect on OUSD? A school board member joking about the systemic racism and inequity that plague our society is not only unfeeling, it causes harm to the almost 30,000 students in the district.</p> <p>I am calling for an immediate investigation into Brenda Lebsack's public comments and use of the district assigned email and listserv to distribute hate speech. Please release a public statement to let students, families, community members, and educators know how you are handling this concerning situation. Please help me teach my students that THEY MATTER NO MATTER WHAT.</p> <p>Sincerely, Stacey Strong Ortega</p>

7/22/2020 15:19:48	Ed Zubiate	Yes	N.A.	Oppose Issue	<p>My name is Ed Zubiate.</p> <p>I have a grandson at Nohl Canyon Elementary and a granddaughter also in an OC District.</p> <p>I am a retired employee of the Los Angeles Unified School District.</p> <p>I was a teacher, a District Advisor, an Assistant Principal, a middle school Principal, and a high school Principal. When I retired I was the Principal of Fairfax High School.</p> <p>I am a Mexican-America. I am a U.S. Army veteran.</p> <p>I am writing in regard to Ms. Brenda Lebsack's "food for thought" communication.</p> <p>My first thought was to wonder what the consequences would have been for me, as a public official, if I had ever written and published such a letter. I am pretty certain that I would have faced some degree of discipline. Most likely the loss of my position.</p> <p>My second thought is that Ms. Lebsack's use of sarcasm is not an excuse for such hurtful rhetoric.</p> <p>Let me be clear. Primarily I don't care about Ms. Lebsack's ignorant and white supremacy viewpoint. I'm not optimistic that she will ever change. What I care about are the victims of this kind of mentality. And the people who quietly let this pass unaddressed.</p> <p>As fellow Board members it is your responsibility to care for all of your constituents. If you remain silent then you are complicit in this matter.</p> <p>I am 72 years old and I can't help but fretfully wonder when our country will begin to collectively explore the reasons why people (especially those charged with representing all of their constituents) are so comfortable shaming others in any manner.</p> <p>I am respectfully asking each Board member to please be part of the solution. Not the problem. It is time that we all understand that what is good for many of us can be good for all of us. Please help us in the important and difficult pursuit of happiness.</p> <p>No one should feel it is okay to be Ms. Lebsack's kind of angry. So hurtful, and so sarcastically shameful.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Ed Zubiate</p>
7/22/2020 15:30:56	Jena Hoppie	Yes	Non-agenda	Oppose Issue	<p>I would just like to state my complete and utter disgust with Brenda Lebsack. Her anti-LGBTQ+ rhetoric on her public Facebook page has no place in public education. This is NOT someone I want to make decisions regarding my children's future. Her recent public rant that came under fire was out of line, unprofessional, dehumanizing and in extremely poor taste. While we are in the midst of a world wide pandemic and a civil rights movement I would hope that the elected officials on this board would promote exclusivity, compassion, and is indicative of equal human rights. Shame on Brenda Lebsack.</p>
7/22/2020 15:55:57	ARACELI JUSTINIANI	No	OUEA - Trustee Lebsack	Oppose Issue	<p>Good evening Orange Board and staff,</p> <p>My name is Araceli Justiniani. I am a retiree from Santa Ana Unified and work volunteering in the inner city. I know Trustee Brenda Lebsack personally and when I saw how employees of this district recently attacked her, I was shocked.</p> <p>I cannot think of any school leader who has advocated for the Hispanic People in Orange County and the state of California, like Brenda Lebsack. When she saw the new ideas coming into the curriculum through the Calif Dpt of Education, she knew the Hispanic immigrant population would have concerns. She started speaking in Spanish communities informing parents about the new ideas on gender and sexuality that were going to be taught in schools. She encouraged us to give input on the Health Framework during the 60-day state Community Input Process. However, Hispanic parents were not able to do it because all the documents were only in English. Brenda contacted the Dpt of Education and asked for the Framework in Spanish, they said they could only provide it in English. Brenda was shocked by this, especially since an entire chapter of the framework talked about equitable access for diverse lingual groups. She kept trying with the State Representatives, but they would not budge. When parents submitted their input in their mother tongue, State rep's said they could not guarantee our comments would be on the summary report. So Brenda filed a complaint against the Calif Dpt of Education to the Office of Civil Rights. She was livid about the discrimination and exclusion of almost 30% of the Calif Population. She asked the CTA leadership to help advocate for us, but they just ignored her request.</p> <p>They don't cared- they have their agenda!!</p> <p>Brenda wrote an article about it that was published in a Spanish Newspaper. She expressed, "Does the Calif Dpt of Education think English speaking parents care MORE about their children than non-English speaking parents?" she also said... "You might wonder why this white woman cares so much about the Hispanic Community". "I owe my life to them. Before I was born, a Hispanic man, Manuel, who did not speak English, had a dream. His dream was to help a man on the corner who was homeless. That man was my father. Manuel and his wife brought my dad into their home, clothed him, fed him and helped him get a job. They took him to an English church and after a few years, that church sponsored him to attend seminary, where he met my mom. Brenda was born and raised in Santa Ana and saw her dad sponsor dozens of Hispanic men and women through Bible College where they later became Spanish ministers.</p> <p>I tell this story, because the OUEA Facebook accusations are done in ignorance. If someone presents a view you do not agree with, you call them a "racist", "incompetent", or "ignorant". Actions speak louder than words. CTA's LACK OF ACTION when the state excluded Hispanic Parents' voices is what is "racist". Brenda cares about parents, of all races or beliefs.</p> <p>Thanks!</p>
7/22/2020 16:18:03	Brenda Lebsack	No	none this is a test	Support Issue	<p>Hana.. I'm testing this out to make sure my submission is going through. People were asking me how to submit a comment and this is the link I gave to them, but I gave it before the July 23 agenda was up. I want to make sure this link is still valid and getting to you. Can you let me now please? thank you! Brenda</p>

7/22/2020 17:42:30	LAURA OLIVER	No	E-Re-imagining schools plan	Oppose Issue	<p>Our district will be providing our students with online virtual/distance learning . As a first grade teacher being told on Friday March 13, 2020 to send home all materials necessary for my students to continue their learning and education from home was a very difficult day. On Monday March 16, 2020 to provide two weeks of online lesson plans and to prove I could teach my class from home was nothing less than a nightmare. There had been no training, help, or time to acquire support from our district. I worked all weekend to figure this out and for the following month brainstormed, called help lines, and sought the help of some district personnel. I worked 7 days a week and many days from 7 in the morning till 10 at night. I do not want a repeat of this experience. As a teacher and a district we are moving onto a new frontier in education. Offering training in the summer is unacceptable. Once again we are asked to give up our time. The teachers of O.U.S.D are outstanding and have always stepped up and done our best under any given situation. As a board you need to provide us the training we need to be successful in this unchartered educational time. We need to have two weeks. We need training, time to prepare and collaborate with our grade level, learn how best to accommodate and meet the mental and emotional needs of our students, meet and collaborate with our special education staff, and have answers for parents so 2020-2021 is a successful and amazing school year. We need to delay the first student day to September 1, 2020. By giving teachers this time and training you are saying we are important and that you believe in us and our ability to provide quality, rigorous education to our students. You will also be showing our community that we have a plan and we are providing outstanding resources for each and every student. As a district we need all teachers and aides to be given the proper training and guidance. The Covid cases continue to rise in Orange County so at this point are only option is distance learning. Our Governor has asked anyone who can to work from home. I am asking that you display this act of support for teachers so they can enhance their skills in distance learning. Give us the opportunity to learn what works best and how to achieve this important task. This is a time that this board could vote to show support for our district teachers and staff and sent an example to other districts as leaders in the new world of education.</p>
7/22/2020 18:40:40	Christina Gonzalez	Yes	NON AGENDA	Oppose Issue	<p>Dear OUEA Teachers and board,  My name is Christina Gonzalez. I am a Lesbian parent and grandparent and I want to comment about Trustee Lebsack's Satire and the hostile feedback she received from Union Teachers. I thought her Satire about" identity politics" was hilarious. As a Lesbian myself, I did not take offense, so if you are trying to defend my sexual orientation by trying to sound "compassionate", it's very unnecessary.</p> <p>Please do not assume all LGBTQ individuals think alike politically. Just as teachers are very diverse in their opinions and political affiliations, so are people who identify as LGBT. As a Lesbian parent and grandparent, I am not in favor of Black Lives Matter Curriculum in Schools that the Teachers Union (CTA and NEA) endorses.</p> <p>First of all, BLM promotes gender ideologies I feel are harmful to children. Their mission statement says they want to DISMANTLE the idea that gender is biologically determined. WHY? They say their movement is based on SCIENCE, yet their Science says kids can CHOOSE their gender as boy, girl, BOTH, NEITHER or SOMETHING ELSE. SOMETHING ELSE?!? That's an OPEN ENDED Pandora Box. What kind of science does BLM practice? MAD SCIENCE?!? Is reality now based on a child's fickle emotions? This is dangerous for children and would create havoc in homes, regardless if parents are straight or gay. BLM's science defies COMMON SENSE.</p> <p>Second of all, BLM is Prejudice. They are prejudice against MEN. As a lesbian I don't usually advocate for men, but I am fair minded and I call a spade a spade. Their mission statement seeks to dismantle Father Figures. This sounds sexist to me. I have nothing against fathers. I am and will always be DADDY'S GIRL to my Hispanic Father. I treasured my time with him growing up and his love has been a safety net during my most tumultuous times. How dare they attack Father Figures in children's lives! BLM says they are free from mysogyny, defined as a prejudice against women. Yet they fight this with Misandry, a prejudice against men? Prjudice of ANY KIND does not define FREEDOM. It just exchanges one hate-filled bondage for another.</p> <p>Third of all, BLM is Prejudice against Families. Their strategy to fight hate is to create more hate. Their Mission statement says they disrupt the Western Nuclear family because children should be raised by villages. I think ALL TYPES of families should be EQUALLY celebrated. Why is BLM stigmatizing nuclear families? Maybe because, like teacher unions, they want the STATE or "VILLAGES" to raise our children, while they systematically take away our parental rights (gay and straight alike). They are conditioning us to abdicate our parental responsibilities. This is propaganda and psychological manipulation for the purpose of CONTROL. BLM is not about anti-racism or equity, it's all about CONTROL.</p> <p>Teachers, where is your union taking our children, education and this country? Children are the future, and if these are the teachings you are funding, our future is not looking very bright.</p> <p>These concepts do not belong in the schools. Parents can teach their kids at home according to their family, cultural or religious values. The teachers union endorsement of BLM curriculum is an assault on parental rights and an assault on the fiber of our country.</p>

7/22/2020 19:01:44	Andrew Tapia	No	Non agenda - subject: Mrs Lebsack	Oppose Issue	<p>Good evening Orange Unified Board and trustees,</p> <p>My name is Andrew Tapia, I am a past student of Mrs. Brenda Lebsack. I was a student of hers for 2 years while attending Mcpherson Magnet school. In reference to the criticism of Mrs. Lebsack I would like to share the experiences I had with her as my English and math teacher. I was a student at Orange unified school District for 8 years. Throughout my many years as a student of Orange unified I had the privilege of meeting Mrs. Brenda Lebsack, a woman who not only strived to teach her students in a heedful manner but bring them to academic success. I struggled for many years as a student, I fell behind in many of my classes. I felt helpless and I was on the verge of failure. Half way through my 7th grade year I was told that I would be moved into special education classes. Not only were my grades failing but my self esteem was as well. That was until I entered Mrs. Lebsacks english and math class. Her classroom was a soothing, encouraging and comforting environment. She allowed for a space that was judgement free, provided extra support even outside of class time, and encouraged me to pursue extra curricular leadership opportunities. Due to her encouragement and help, I became vice president of one of McPherson's largest school clubs, and then became involved in ASB Leadership at El Modena High School all four years. Her tactics included integrating my family into my education. She did so by giving notice to my family and advising them of my strengths and weaknesses so that we together could work towards improvement. As time went on my grades and confidence kept improving. For these reasons and more I express my sincerest gratitude for all the efforts taken to improve my academic career.</p> <p>After much time had passed during my senior year at El Modena High School Mrs. Lebsack invited past students and family friends to join her in a college prep and scholarship tip session. She took the time out her active schedule to prepare us for the complex task that is the college and scholarship application process. She shared personal experiences and ways to make this stressful process go as smoothly as possible. I have been a student at Santiago Canyon College for two years and while planning my transfer I was able to call her and ask for her input and advice during my transfer process. Even after years of being her student she expressed her compassion and dedication to my academics so I could achieve my dreams of success. I have profound respect for her and I am proud to call her a dear friend. Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Kind regards,  Andrew Tapia  Student  Mcpherson Magnet School</p>
7/22/2020 20:01:33	Sally Chun	No	1)-C. And 6)-a	Support Issue	<p>As a public school educator, I am thrilled to hear about OUSD supporting Orange County Classical Academy. I have many friends that would normally homeschool or use private school become open to the idea of public education because of OCCA. I know the Union is opposed to OCCA. Yet every time I ask my colleagues why that is the case, I usually receive a vague response about OCCA taking power and funding away from the Union. Sadly, that rationale is not centered on students being the priority. I know some of the board members have come under fire from the Union for supporting OCCA and I want to encourage you to continue to make decisions that are student-centered not union-centered.</p> <p>OCCA is giving families a choice for their child's education, particularly underprivileged children. Giving these families a choice to go to OCCA will give opportunities to children that they may not otherwise have. Additionally, it reengages families that have opted out of the public school system.</p> <p>As a public school educator, I don't see OCCA as a threat, but rather a chance for OUSD to bring relevant education to its many different stakeholders.</p> <p>Orange Unified Board Members, your legacy has been making decisions with the child in mind. Do the right thing and allow OCCA to open under your district.</p>
7/22/2020 20:29:55	Lauren Jones	No	7G, Re-imagining Schools Plan	Support Issue	<p>Thank you,  A Concerned Educator</p> <p>My name is Lauren Jones and I am a OUSD graduate who is currently enrolled in the Master of Public Health program at UCLA. My two siblings are currently enrolled in OUSD schools. I am very concerned about the white paper approved by the Orange County Board of Education, whose irresponsible guidelines prioritize politics over science. I would encourage OUSD's Board of Education to work closely with the Orange County Health Care Agency to develop responsible guidelines so that when our children can return to school, they are able to do so safely and with appropriate precautions. I have done literature reviews on the COVID-19 situation, and the best course of action is to social distance at a minimum of 6 feet while wearing a face covering, such as a cloth mask, and practicing appropriate hand hygiene. All three of these mechanisms must be combined to prove effective, especially as in previous pandemics schools and schoolchildren have been a crucial mode of virus transmission. I would be happy to provide sources for this information if necessary.</p>

7/22/2020 20:43:43	Sharon McAleer	Yes	Agenda Item 7G	Support Issue	<p>Good Evening Esteemed OUSD board members and Superintendent Dr. Hansen, My name is Sharon McAleer and I am a teacher and a parent in our district. I speak to you tonight regarding our return to distance learning this fall. Our schools were closed down March 13th and we literally had HOURS to gather up as much as we could to send home with our students. We returned to work on Monday the 16th with instructions to come up with two weeks of lesson plans, a platform from which we would be teaching and an expectation of providing a superior education for our students. Many districts gave their teachers days, if not weeks to get some training and figure out how they were going to move forward with distance learning. We had none of this. My colleagues and I spent countless hours trying to figure out HOW to teach online. As we began wading through virtual learning, the district inundated us with trainings, that were often offered on our own time. It was a state of emergency. We understood this. We did the best we could under the circumstances.</p> <p>We now KNOW that we will be beginning the school year with distance learning. We were just informed of a week long training that will be offered in August. Many of us are not available to attend as many of us had made prior commitments. In order to provide a robust learning experience for our students, ALL of our teachers need proper training. We need adequate time to plan together. Distance learning is new to all of us, and though we are masters in our classrooms, even the best of us have struggled with distance learning. We can not repeat the stress and chaos that was experienced during the spring. I am imploring you to push back the start of school for students and train our teachers PROPERLY when ALL teachers are available. Our students and teachers deserve better. Thank you for your time.</p>
7/22/2020 21:27:18	Ken	No	Support for Brenda Lebsak	Oppose Issue	<p>Brenda Lebsak is a servant to the people of OUSD. She is a conservative who believes in parental rights and three right to direct the upbringing of children. She has been unfairly attacked by left leaning political groups and individuals, all because of her endorsement of my recent successful campaign for Trustee of the Orange County Department of Education in March 2020. Allow me to share those results. I won 80 % of the vote in Villa Park, and I won two of three votes in Orange. So Brenda Lebsak is aligned with the majority of the OUSD community. I would encourage those who malign her character and engage in ad hominem attacks to understand you are engaging in petty politics against a good human being.</p>
7/22/2020 21:57:22	Lynn-Marie Frediani	No	Public comment	Support Issue	<p>Last week's Orange County Board of Education's vote to endanger our students by proposing to send them immediately back into classrooms without implementing even the most basic safety measures recommended by public health professionals was shocking and irresponsible.</p> <p>What is more distressing is to know that majority of you, John Ortega, Brenda Lebsack, Alexia Deligianni and Rick Ledesma, align with the OC Board of Education so squarely. The OC BE is led by Mari Barke, the wife of Jeff Barke, the Board Chairman of the Orange County Classical Academy the 4 of you voted to approve last December. Jeff Barke is part of a bigger alliance that is hell-bent on destroying public education and our very own teachers. He is a leading anti-masker and super spreader of false information.</p> <p>Consider this – more than a month BEFORE President Mari Barke placed this on the agenda and before the OCBE eventually voted to recommend no masks, no social distancing and no reduced class sizes – Jeff Barke announced to the world on FB that Orange County Classical Academy would not be requiring masks, social distancing or reduced class sizes. How convenient! In that same FB conversation, a woman asked whether if she homeschooled her child, the school district would lose funding to which Jeff Barke responded, "Yes, it's a win-win!"</p> <p>You four – John Ortega, Alexia Deligianni, Brenda Lebsack and Rick Ledesma – brought this cancer into our district when you approved Jeff Barke's charter school. You brought this anti-public education and anti-teacher sentiment here to Orange Unified. You brought a proud anti-masker and anti-science agenda. The majority of the Orange County Board of Education, including Jeff Barke's wife, got their campaigns funded from the SAME special interest political action committee that also funded your campaigns, Mrs Lebsack and Mr. Ortega. And I suspect they will do the same thing again and will undoubtedly include Ms. Deligianni.</p> <p>Unfortunately, we already know what money will buy when it comes to you – an anti-public school and anti-teacher agenda, a multi-million dollar drain on our district, and a dangerous group of people that is going to place our children in physical danger. I ask: "Are you trying to dismantle Orange Unified School District and the public education it offers?" Your actions seem to leave little room for doubt.</p>

7/22/2020 22:36:33	Amanda Sloan	Yes	7. G. Re-imagining Schools Plan	Oppose Issue	<p>OUSD Board,</p> <p>It is time to get creative!</p> <p>While I recognize and support our teachers who worked hard last year and did the best they could to finish out the school year with distance learning, looking forward to another several months, or whole school year of putting my kids in front of screens to "learn" just won't cut it. It isn't the way my children learn- it isn't the way most children learn. With lower elementary school aged kids especially- distance learning isn't really that. It's much more like home schooling in terms of a parents' need to support their students. And I had the luxury to do that, if you can call loosing your job in a pandemic a "luxury." But most families, as we all know, are not operating under equal circumstances.</p> <p>In Gov. Newsom's public address on Monday, July 20th, he discussed that while current school guidelines don't address moving learning outside, he said, "I'm open to the argument." To that end, I am urging OUSD to consider devising and submitting a plan for implementing outdoor education, at minimum, on a part time basis for students in our school district so that our kids are learning in-person with their teachers, even if Orange County remains on the governor's "watch list."</p> <p>As a parent of 4 boys I want to ensure a school year where authentic learning takes place while keeping our community as safe as possible. In California, where our weather is more mild than most, this is a feasible option that we can participate in year round, if required, during our 20-21 school year. And, if we're being honest with ourselves, the virus will be a very real reality for us, most likely affecting the entire school year. We cannot "wait and see." And we can certainly get more creative than "virtual learning" which is less about our children and more about checking the box to make sure our school districts get daily funding. It's not enough for our kids. I hope you agree.</p> <p>Let's devise and submit an outdoor plan to our State and get our students back with their teachers and peers. Let's make it easier for parents get back to work. Let me know how I can participate in and be part of the solution.</p> <p>Sincerely, Amanda Sloan Mom of kids who attend McPherson Magnet</p>
7/22/2020 22:42:01	Jessica Precht	Yes	Item 7.G	Support Issue	<p>With the rising spread of COVID-19 transmission in the community, I am relieved that the schools will be transitioning to 100% virtual learning. During this difficult time, I ask the board to consider a more community-centered approach. Specifically, I would like to see our local schools partner with the county health care agency and community health centers to facilitate local, free testing sites and connect impacted families with more supports- including food, vitamins, medications, and quarantine housing as needed.</p> <p>I would also like to see the OUSD board call upon the county and city to use COVID-19 resources for more prevention and education to counter misinformation and encourage mask use so that our schools can reopen.</p> <p>Related strictly to virtual learning in OUSD, I would like to see the board ensure that all families in need of internet connectivity are provided with wifi hotspots and that families who are unable to supervise their children's virtual learning have access to full-day childcare at the schools. This model is being replicated in Santa Ana Unified through their Engage 360 program as well as in YMCAs and Boys and Girls Clubs around the county. Essential workers should receive priority enrollment as there will likely be high demand with limited spaces.</p>
7/22/2020 22:42:49	Greg Goodlander	No	6A Public Comment	Support Issue	<p>Good Evening President Ortega, Members of the Board, Dr. Hansen, Cabinet and community. This is an official statement from Greg Goodlander, President of OUEA.</p> <p>As a local leader and the official spokesperson for Orange Unified Education Association, I am saddened by the insensitive, inflammatory, and discriminatory remarks recently shared on social media by board member Brenda Lebsack. Her comments should NOT have been posted on her personal social media account, nor sent to union leaders like myself. They do not reflect the thoughtfulness of an elected leader- and certainly not the values of our community.</p> <p>As citizens, we hope to elect school board trustees who will help to safeguard our schools and make them showcases for their local communities. We did NOT elect a local leader to play identity politics and bring embarrassing attention to the hardworking employees of Orange Unified School District. Lebsack's comments, which she tried to defend as satire, expose a racist, discriminatory ideology that suggests LGBTQ+ are nothing more than opportunists, and that white males are the true victims in American society. To those of our members and students, and parents who are members of the LGBTQ+ community, I'm here to remind her that words have electoral consequences.</p> <p>As one of the many recipients of her e-mail, I demand that Trustee Lebsack apologize to me and our community for her senseless action.</p>
7/22/2020 23:18:58	Lisa Graham	Yes	Return to School agenda	Oppose Issue	<p>Want to share Video related to Online learning impact</p>

7/23/2020 0:07:42	Ravi Shah	Yes	7G Re-Imagining School Plans	Support Issue	<p>Dear Superintendent Hansen and Members of the school board,</p> <p>As a practicing physician and a concerned parent, I have seen firsthand the negative impact that Covid-19 has brought to the local community. I believe that it is imperative for every member of the community to help curtail the spread of this novel coronavirus. Therefore, I strongly believe that our students (and teachers) should be wearing masks during school, have daily temperature checks, and have staggered recess and lunch times to promote social distancing. The schools should also be implementing more hand-washing stations so that the students have the capability of washing hands frequently. An abundant amount of hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes should be available in each classroom. Following these requirements are at least the minimum in order to keep our students and their families safe from contracting Covid-19.</p> <p>I appreciate the hard work that the school board has put into planning the re-opening of schools this Fall. However, myself along with many other parents, cannot imagine sending our kids to school if the above minimum requirements are not met. That would signify that the leaders of the district are not taking this disease as serious enough, potentially allowing the spread of the virus which has shown to be lethal, and thus eventually leading to another shutdown.</p> <p>Sincerely, Ravi Shah, DO MS FACS</p>
7/23/2020 0:28:26	Apryl Imboden	Yes	Re-imagining the schools plan	Support Issue	<p>I feel that it is necessary for the children to continue virtual distance learning, but with teachers from their school. In addition for those families that have children with special needs cases or have no choice but to send their children to in person instruction that they have a suitable option that meets their needs. I understand that not everyone will have a solution that works entirely for them but every effort to ensure that individual needs are met should be a priority.</p>
7/23/2020 0:45:21	Mrunal Shah	Yes	n/a	Oppose Issue	<p>Good Evening Dr. Hansen, President Ortega and Members of Board:</p> <p>As many of you know I am a member of the Citizen's Oversight Committee and a parent to children within the District. Tonight I'd like to address two issues which I believe are of critical importance to the well-being, growth and development of students within the District.</p> <p>First, I was fortunate enough to be invited to participate in the District's Strategic Planning meeting which produced the OUSD EDGE strategic plan that was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Board on July 25, 2019. One of core values established by the plan was as follows: "Equity – We promote inclusivity and culturally relevant environments by supporting the social-emotional and intellectual needs of all." I was shocked and disappointed to see a recent letter sent by Clerk Lebsack to the California Teacher's Association in which the rhetoric was disparaging and discriminatory. This contradicts the value of Equity which she approved in the District's strategic plan. My hope is that all Board members will serve as role models for the values which they have adopted in the plan.</p> <p>Second, I would like to address the re-opening of schools. I believe that the physical re-opening of schools is essential for students, however, this cannot come at the cost of the health and safety of students, teachers and staff. I would like to commend Dr. Hansen and all of the District's staff for producing plans for re-opening in accordance with the scientifically based State guidelines. As I have a second grade student, I am concerned that State only encourages K-2nd grade students to wear masks and does not mandate the use of masks for that age group. Masks have been shown to be the most effective in combatting the spread of COVID-19 when everyone wears a mask. With the exception of those that are medically unable to wear a mask, I would respectfully request the District to mandate that all students, teachers and staff wear masks with the acknowledgement that for younger children it may not be possible to wear the mask for the entire duration in school.</p>
7/23/2020 1:47:23	Jasmine Nguyen	No	N/A	Support Issue	<p>Dear OUSD School Board: We thank you for your time and patience. The team at DiversifyOurNarrative wanted to apologize if we came across as unwilling to cooperate at the last school board meeting, where we shared our concerns regarding racial justice in the classroom. We deeply appreciate the work you have done and are grateful to have spoken to some school board members, parents, and teachers in the past few weeks. Our passion stems from the love for our district and the desire to make it better. Though we understand the faculty of OUSD are aiming to be as racially inclusive as possible, we should not stop here—we ask that there be more discussion on race in the classroom.</p> <p>In order to do this, we, the students, created DiversifyOurNarrative, a group that proposes the school board pass a resolution mandating that each English classroom include the teaching of one book by and about a person of color. Given the recent events regarding the death of George Floyd, and the other systemic racial inequalities in our nation, we want to ensure that students from all racial backgrounds are properly represented in the texts read in schools. Please sign at <a href="http://bit.ly/DONPetition">bit.ly/DONPetition</a>, or <a href="mailto:diversifyournarrative.com">diversifyournarrative.com</a>. We are so close to 1,000 signatures! If you'd like to help us, please contact us at <a href="mailto:diversifyournarrativeousd@gmail.com">diversifyournarrativeousd@gmail.com</a>. We appreciate any help from parents, students, teachers, and other community members in OUSD.</p>
7/23/2020 1:47:32	Jasmine Nguyen	No	N/A	Support Issue	<p>Dear OUSD School Board: We thank you for your time and patience. The team at DiversifyOurNarrative wanted to apologize if we came across as unwilling to cooperate at the last school board meeting, where we shared our concerns regarding racial justice in the classroom. We deeply appreciate the work you have done and are grateful to have spoken to some school board members, parents, and teachers in the past few weeks. Our passion stems from the love for our district and the desire to make it better. Though we understand the faculty of OUSD are aiming to be as racially inclusive as possible, we should not stop here—we ask that there be more discussion on race in the classroom.</p> <p>In order to do this, we, the students, created DiversifyOurNarrative, a group that proposes the school board pass a resolution mandating that each English classroom include the teaching of one book by and about a person of color. Given the recent events regarding the death of George Floyd, and the other systemic racial inequalities in our nation, we want to ensure that students from all racial backgrounds are properly represented in the texts read in schools. Please sign at <a href="http://bit.ly/DONPetition">bit.ly/DONPetition</a>, or <a href="mailto:diversifyournarrative.com">diversifyournarrative.com</a>. We are so close to 1,000 signatures! If you'd like to help us, please contact us at <a href="mailto:diversifyournarrativeousd@gmail.com">diversifyournarrativeousd@gmail.com</a>. We appreciate any help from parents, students, teachers, and other community members in OUSD.</p>

7/23/2020 1:47:57	Anushka Devarajan	No	N/A	Support Issue	<p>The DiversifyOurNarrative collective group asked OUSD students to anonymously submit instances of racism they have encountered while in OUSD schools. We received dozens of submissions, but have selected a few of those we deemed most shocking to be read during this meeting. This is not to accuse anyone, as we understand the efforts of OUSD to become better-- however, we do aim to draw attention to the need to combat racism in our schools immediately. Many have told us that this issue of racism cannot be dealt with at the moment due to other more pressing matters. We respectfully disagree-- these matters are of the utmost urgency. The following statements are direct quotes from the OUSD student body.</p> <p>My Freshmen year, we were reading To Kill A Mockingbird in class and our teacher told us that we were allowed to say the n word, including the hard r, while reading. It left a lot of class uneasy, especially when the student who read it was not black. - an OUSD student</p> <p>I've been constantly asked by kids in my APUSH class if i was part of the bombing of Pearl Harbor because I'm japanese, and I've also had random kids go up to me and ask if i eat dogs, cats, bats, etc. because i'm chinese. I get asked by nonasians if they get the "chink pass" or the "jap pass", and I've also experienced many asians at my school say the n word. - an OUSD student</p> <p>My Latina friend was told to go back to her county and to cross the border legally. She is legal. The teacher shushed the student who said this to her, but not for what was being said— she simply said the students were being "too noisy." - an OUSD student</p> <p>While at lunch, me and my friends were sitting in this hallway and two kids walked past me and started chanting "N***** n***** n*****" at me and my other black friend. We were young at the time and didn't know much of the history of the world since our schools curriculum didn't go over the majority of slavery and harmful racist culture at the time. - an OUSD student</p>
7/23/2020 1:48:06	Archita Ray	No	N/A	Support Issue	<p>The above examples are just a few of the over 100 responses we have received from OUSD students regarding their experiences of racism in a school. Racism is far from dead in our schools and instead has been so deeply institutionalized that students cannot walk through the hallway without hearing a racial slur or pick their classes without having their counselor question their ability to achieve in a class due to their race. We commend the board for the steps they are taking to create a safer and more equal environment for all students, yet ask that they look to create tangible and long lasting change by adapting our curriculum to include more diverse works and providing better diversity training for teachers and administration. Racism will not disappear overnight, however education and informed conversation can be incredibly effective in shaping young minds to fight against the racism of the world, rather than become victims and pawns. As a school board, you have the power to make nearly 30,000 students more understanding, more accepting, and ultimately better citizens in our diverse world. We hope you take this opportunity to do the right thing. And to all parents, current and former students, and teachers listening, if you want to be a part of fighting racism in OUSD and diversifying curriculums, we urge you to email us at <a href="mailto:diversifyournarrativeousd@gmail.com">diversifyournarrativeousd@gmail.com</a> or visit <a href="http://www.diversifyournarrative.com">www.diversifyournarrative.com</a> to get involved! Our school district and students need us!</p>
7/23/2020 8:42:56	Heather Dickson	Yes	Public comment- negotiations	Support Issue	<p>Dear President Ortega and Members of the Board:</p> <p>I am a parent and a teacher with Orange Unified School District (OUSD). I have had the opportunity to witness and see the hard work our OUSD teachers put into their lessons and into the support of our students. I also have firsthand knowledge of the level of commitment and work during our typical school year as well as our recent shift from in-person to distance education across a variety of domains for our students.</p> <p>I urge OUSD to reach an agreement with OUEA on the current in negotiation bargaining agreement, WITH compensation for the 2019/20 year. I am disappointed in OUSD. To be completely honest, I also feel disheartened with a District who touts their "EDGE" core values, yet has their teachers lower on the pay scale. Students and staff left school on Friday, March 13, 2020 and teachers were asked to have plans ready and in on Monday, March 16, 2020. To my knowledge we were one of the only districts to do this. We as teachers supported you, OUSD, in your commitment to "The EDGE" in our quick turn around into distance learning (1.0- Excellence in academics; 2.0 Dedication and engaged communication).</p> <p>Where is OUSD's "EDGE" core value of "Respect" for teachers and their hard work? We demonstrated our "Respect, Excellence, and Dedication" to you OUSD, now it is time for you to do the same for us. With this I restate my position, I urge OUSD to reach agreement on the current in negotiation bargaining agreement, WITH compensation for the 2019/20 year.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
7/23/2020 9:26:57	Birgit Dean	No	Thanking the Board	Support Issue	<p>-Heather Dickson</p> <p>I am a grandmother who is deeply concerned regarding the public education of my grandchildren and their peers. Public School education in California has declined dramatically over the past few decades ranking our state consistently in the bottom 10. Curriculum such as The 1619 Project (to be implemented in over 3,000 schools nationwide), the GenderCool Project and Drag Queen Story hour are a few examples of what, in my view, "woke" educators are teaching that can harm young minds. A quality education provides the student, especially those who are underprivileged, with the biggest chance for a better life. My heartfelt thanks to the OCCA board and all involved in making school choice a reality for parents in Orange County. Your wisdom, hard work and dedication in birthing this exceptional Charter School will provide a solid educational foundation and produce rich fruit in countless young lives.</p>
7/23/2020 9:36:54	Monica Yi	No	support OCCA/charters/school choice	Support Issue	<p>As a parent and an educator myself, I strongly support OCCA, along with all other charter schools in OC. I strongly believe that "one size does NOT fit all" in education, and that parents should be given the right to choose the education that fits best for their children. My daughter is currently enrolled with OCCA for the upcoming school year, and we are truly excited for her upcoming journey. We look forward to the content rich liberal arts and science curriculum OCCA has to offer, and to help build her into an exceptional citizen!</p> <p>Thank you, Board of Trustees, for your time and for voting to support OCCA!</p>



7/23/2020 9:49:59	Morgan	No	OCCA Support	Support Issue	OCCA is the best option I have heard of in a very long time. I have considered driving the 40 minutes each day to attend. They give us as parents the option to a different opportunity for our kids instead struggling to find a private school. Our country thrives when citizens have options. This is an option and a good one!
7/23/2020 10:56:21	Sorro	Yes	ACTION ITEMS Subject RE-IMAGINING SCHOOLS PLAN Type Action	Support Issue	<p>How much time will be dedicated to live synchronous learning each day? I know Riverside Unified is doing 3 hours for live instruction for primary grades. For students in grades TK-2nd it will be difficult for them to stay still and engaged for long durations of time. My TK student was able to sit still and engaged for maybe 30 minutes max during his google meets instructional time in the spring. I had to sit with him through the entire meeting to help him switch between screens, unmute, and make sure he didn't logout of the application. My other student was in 1st grade and her teacher utilized seasaw often and that was helpful because it allowed flexibility. She was able to watch her teachers prerecorded instruction throughout the day and submit her assignments using seasaw. She attends Mcpherson and we really enjoyed the flexibility and fast turn around time from her teacher when we had questions. Her teacher kept the google meetings to about 30mins. Also, the principal did an excellent job with providing communication and a positive culture with his daily words of wisdom videos. The Asynchronous instruction might be a better fit for our youngest students as it not only allows for flexibility but allows the parents to be present to help their child with the technology and any questions. Please be mindful that homes might have multiple students in various grades, have parents who are both working, and that our teachers also have children of their own. When you are deciding the instructional time frames please be considerate about families abilities to be present for long windows of live instructional time especially for our youngest kids. Please provide training packets and resources for parents so we can show our students how to use the multiple learning applications effectively.</p> <p>Will the district be conducting student assessments? That will look for any potential learning loss that occurred during the lock down? Will the district be providing additional tutoring and potentially have small groups to help get students caught up? For both in person and virtual.</p>
7/23/2020 10:58:28	Nicol Jones	Yes	Non-agenda	N/A	<p>Dear Superintendent Hanson and Esteemed Board Members,</p> <p>The OUSD policy on Public Comment states, "Non-agenda items may neither be acted upon nor discussed by the Board, but will be responded to either by telephone, mail, or at a subsequent meeting." I spoke at the February 6th School Board meeting about the Memorandum of Understanding between OUSD and CHOC, and I also spoke at the March 12th School Board meeting about increasing our counselor-to-student ratios. To date, I have not received a response, and the Board has not taken action on either of these concerns.</p> <p>Board President Ortega pulled the Memorandum of Understanding between OUSD and CHOC off the agenda back in February. Since then, there has been no further discussion by this Board. What could be stopping this? The agenda indicated that OUSD has an opportunity for free mental health services for students by one of the most respected children's hospitals in the nation. What vital mental health services could our students have been afforded if this MOU had been in place? Having a community partner, like CHOC, could have been an invaluable resource to our students in these difficult times. I encourage this Board to place this item back on the agenda and vote to approve this MOU as soon as possible so our children can receive the additional help they so desperately need.</p> <p>Distance learning has changed the landscape for many of our students. Kids are more confused than ever about college applications and SATs. They are anxious about the future of sports, their peer relationships, and added home stressors. We needed to raise the counselor-to-student ratio when I spoke to you in February and in March. Now, increasing the counselor-to-student ratio, especially in our secondary schools, is more critical than ever.</p> <p>Many people in our community are incredibly concerned about the toll that the COVID epidemic has on our children's physical and mental health. Our kids' social circles and supports are shrinking, and economic and health concerns are stressing our families. Now, more than ever, we need to prioritize the mental health of our students. I know that these services were sorely underfunded before and remain that way. Please place pressure on the Board of Supervisors to release funds that are earmarked for mental health services in our County. Also, it is imperative that you take advantage of every opportunity to support our children's mental health, especially when that help is free quality mental health care offered by CHOC. Thank you.</p>
7/23/2020 11:14:28	Andrea Tapia	No	6 parental rights	Support Issue	<p>Hello Members of the Board,</p> <p>I am writing to you this day to express my gratitude to Mrs. Lebsack for speaking up against the gender confusion that has infiltrated the education system. Thank you Mrs. Lebsack for your commitment to protect the minds of our children. Thank you for not allowing special interest groups to bully you into silence. Thank you for standing up for parental rights.</p> <p>Members of the Board, I like to remind you that our children do not belong to the government. I ask you to please respect our parental rights to teach and equip our children as we see best. As parents, we understand that our kids will grow up, become adults and make their own decisions in the future. But while they are in our home, it is our duty as parents to raise them, guide them, love them and care for them as we know best. Allow us parents to pass on our morals and values onto our children. Don't take that away from us. Listen to our concerns as parents and let's work together.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Andrea Tapia</p>

7/23/2020 11:33:54	Crystal Torres	Yes	6. Public Comment on BLM Curriculum	Oppose Issue	<p>My name is Crystal Torres, and I have two grandsons in the Orange Unified School District. From what I have seen of the Black Lives Matter curriculum, I know that I don't want my grandkids to be taught from it. It would be ok if it was only about how much lives matter or about Black History. But I have seen what the organization stands for, and I have some real concerns about what is in the curriculum. For example, telling children that there are an unlimited amount of genders that they can choose from goes against my core values. And the fact that the co-founders of Black Lives Matter are self-proclaimed Marxists is very disturbing. My father who is turning 90 years old in a couple weeks was a Marine and one of the Chosin Few who fought against the Communist Chinese in North Korea in 1950, and it is heartbreaking to think that his and other soldiers' sacrifice was for nothing if we continue down the path toward Socialism and possible Communism. I realize that school does not teach religion, but public education should respect the values of the families represented in the district. I am a Christian, and I believe that the Bible is true. Jesus said that we must come to Him with the faith of a little child. Children aren't racist, and so there is no need to teach them not to be racist. In 1932, when my father was dedicated to the Lord in church, he was held in the arms of a black man named James H. Jonah, who was called The Walking Bible because he had a photographic memory and could quote large portions of the Word of God. My dad as a young boy learned to sing a song in Sunday School called Jesus Loves the Little Children, the lyrics being: Red and yellow, black and white – they are precious in His sight. God loves every person He has created, and loving our neighbor as ourselves is one of His greatest commandments. Our nation's laws are based upon The Ten Commandments, and without them, we would only have chaos, which seems to be the direction that our country is heading right now. My husband is Hispanic, and his father always told him that he should never use the fact that he grew up as a minority as an excuse to not be successful. My husband did run into issues of prejudice early in his career, but he didn't let that affect him, and he retired after 35 years at the same company as one of their most respected employees. We need to teach our kids what Martin Luther King's dream was: that the time would come when we don't define each other by the color of our skin. We need unity, but I believe that this curriculum will just create more division, and so I strongly recommend that the Orange Unified School District not use it. Thank you for letting me share my opinion with the Board.</p>
7/23/2020 13:11:19	Madison Miner	Yes	Public comment	Support Issue	<p>I absolutely support Orange County Classical Academy and I thank our board of trustees for creating and supporting as well. I grew up in this city and I'm so excited to raise my kids here. I've always been involved in teaching, coaching, and helping to nurture this city's youth. In fact I use to coach Ms. Erickson's beautiful daughter! I'm so hopeful and excited for my own kids to now get to receive an incredible Classical education. Thank you for your time and I ask you please support this great school as well.</p>
7/23/2020 13:25:50	Carrie Lundell	Yes	general public comment	N/A	<p>My name is Carrie Lundell, and I have 3 children who attend OUSD schools and one recent graduate. I am once again troubled by Trustee Brenda Lebsack's behavior these past few weeks. The offensive, satirical letter she wrote to the teachers and her unsurprising alliance with the Orange County Board of Education's reckless recommendations towards re-opening schools stands in stark contrast to the OUSD core values of Integrity, Equity, Respect and Excellence.</p> <p>We cannot expect our students to live up to these defining values without modeling those values ourselves. Effective school boards are built on community trust, but Mrs. Lebsack's behaviors both in public board meetings and behind the scenes, continue to erode community trust</p> <p>As public representatives on the school board, Trustees should be able to disagree on issues while at the same time model effective communication, cooperation and compromise as they work to solve the real problems that affect our students. Instead, over the last two years, I have witnessed Mrs Lebsack use her school board title, her time during board meetings, as well as precious district time and resources to continue to push her personal agenda. Even now, as our district deals with the critical and complicated responsibility of educating our kids during a pandemic, Mrs Lebsack persists in her efforts to drive a wedge in our community by drawing attention to her own partisan agenda, at the expense of our student's education as well as their physical and mental health.</p> <p>At this critical moment, it is more important than ever for the Orange Unified community to live up to the word UNIFIED. We must embrace the reality of our current situation and model for our children compassion, sacrifice, and grit. We have an opportunity to teach our children that our actions do not just impact us individually, but have the ability to make positive change for everyone around us. As a working mother of elementary school, middle school and high school aged students, I recognize the answer to how we get kids back to school will not come as an easy, "one size fits all" solution. But decisions must always put the health and safety of students first.</p> <p>We must work together now, to get our kids back to school in a safe and thoughtful way, And then we must continue to work together to build a school district that lives up to its core values of integrity, equity, respect and excellence.</p> <p>While we have trustees like Mrs Lebsack on the board who behave at odds with these core values, our board will not work with the efficacy it needs to give our children a high-quality education in the safe, equitable, and innovative environment they deserve.</p>

7/23/2020 13:31:14	Katie Marx	No	non-agenda (counseling ratios)	N/A	Dear Distinguished Board Members-  My name is Katie Marx. I have been a teacher at Cerro Villa Middle School for 14 years. I am writing to inquire about our plea on March 12th to change the middle school counseling ratios to the nationally recommended 250-1, or at least match the high school ratio of 450-1.  I feel strongly that now, more than ever, students need mental health support. I believe one part of our OUSD plan to deal with Covid-19 in schools must be how we address students' overall well-being, not just academics. The amount of stress and anxiety on families right now is unprecedented. Our students are struggling to deal with all of this, while not being able to connect with their friends in the way they are used to. Middle School students always need a lot of support, but this pandemic has made it even worse.  I have heard that there is a chance to get funding through an MOU with CHOC. That is absolutely fantastic news! I implore you to use it. And to use any funds possible, especially funds that are supposed to be used for Mental Health services in our County. We need to take immediate action to help our counseling staff.  Please change the ratio for this upcoming school year. Our students need it. Our staff need it. Our families need it.  Thank you so much for your consideration. Katie Marx
7/23/2020 13:56:10	Josh Dam	No	OCCA Charter School	Support Issue	Thank you for supporting OCCA. It's great to have leadership that is open to different type of education. Not all kids learn the same
7/23/2020 14:11:04	Madison Miner	Yes	Public comment	Support Issue	I absolutely support Orange County Classical Academy and I thank our board of trustees for creating and supporting as well. I grew up
7/23/2020 14:43:33	Linda Chau	Yes	7.G	N/A	Thank you Board for taking my comment. I understand the school needs to go online for the safety of everyone. I am wondering for essential workers who are now required to go back to work, if the school have options for their children to have access to a safe environment where they can get access to computers, internet, printers, and most importantly staffing that can assist the children with technical issues and classwork help. Will there be staff to help the little ones that have not learn how to tell time, will a staff member have their zoom schedule and assist the child to be online at the correct time? How are you ensuring that the child care environment is "safe" for our children. If we can't have children in the classroom due to safety issue, what is "safe" for children in a child care
7/23/2020 14:44:16	Amie Weir	Yes	6 A	N/A	El Modena's pool had been out of commission since late spring 2018. What is the current status of the rebuilding of the pool? If the construction for Measure S work and The Fred Kelly Stadium are considered "essential" during covid school closings then please provide the requirements considered to allow construction work to be essential on a school campus at OUSD during this time? #buildit
7/23/2020 14:45:24	Tisha Adams	Yes	The above question should not be required	Support Issue	*Please settle the 2019-2020 teacher contract. It's rather frustrating that the new year is about to begin, and LAST year has not been
7/23/2020 14:59:24	Sapna Chopra	Yes	6. Public Comment	N/A	Dear OUSD Board, As an educator and a mom of two children in OUSD schools, I am asking again that the district implement Ethnic Studies and anti-racist curriculum for all grade levels. I am not the only one asking, as you know from the voices of students and alumni who have organized Diversify Our Narrative. Please listen to what students in our community are asking for. We are in the midst of two pandemics at the moment. One is COVID 19, a recent pandemic we are grappling with. The second is racism, a pandemic that has been around since the origins of this country. I see the district addressing the COVID 19 pandemic by continuing with online learning. How is the district addressing racism and other forms of oppression? We do such a disservice to our students by not teaching them
7/23/2020 15:16:44	Annalise Bradshaw	No	1 - OCCA	Support Issue	With a degree in education, I have seen how standard public schools do not always fit every student, especially students that need a different style of education. I am so excited to see a classical charter school join OUSD. I believe that charter schools give families a choice in their education that they may not have outside of the public system.
7/23/2020 15:18:30	Lauren Lunt	No	OCCA	Support Issue	I have just recently become part of the Orange community and I am so excited to see OCCA open their doors and create this
7/23/2020 15:24:17	Paul and Joanne Mittmann	No	Public Comment	N/A	We are thrilled that our grandson will be entering kindergarten at Orange County Classical Academy. We applaud the Orange Unified School District Board for offering this excellent learning opportunity for their students. As former public school educators, we know "one size fits all" doesn't apply in education and we appreciate your willingness to diversify the learning experiences in the district. Up until now, a classical education could only be obtained through private schools in Orange County, prohibiting low income students from experiencing this method. As a public charter school, a classical education at OCCA will be available to more children. In fact, since there already is a waiting list and parental support is strong, the district may need to expand this model of instruction for more children to benefit from this course of study. We cant thank you enough for taking this bold step to offer parents more choices in the education of their students.
7/23/2020 15:32:45	Katrina Rice	No	None	N/A	I was elated when I heard a charter school was being built in Orange. I love OCCA and it's mission, who wouldn't want to chose a to provide a richer, classical education for their kids. I currently don't have a child in k-5 but my child looks forward to the growth of OCCA, so she can begin middle and finish high school there. OCCA gives my daughter hope for a brighter future. I would like to thank the board for approving OCCA and giving us this chance.

7/23/2020 15:38:48	Michelle Hernandez	Yes	Trustee Lebsack	N/A	Dr Hansen and Members of the Board,	<p>I would like to express my reservations regarding Trustee Lebsack's presence on the OUSD Board of Education. It is abundantly clear this is a person who should not be making decisions regarding any of OUSD's marginalized students. Her satirical FB post (that has since been deleted) was, at best, tone deaf, showed a clear lack of understanding complex issues and certainly had no compassion. To minimize the experience and difficulties of people of color and those in the LGBTQ community by making a "joke" of their plight is hurtful and ultimately shows a deep rooted personal bias. This woman should not be making decisions that impact the students of Orange Unified, nor should she be able to represent our district. Her post was shared multiple times on different social media platforms and has made OUSD infamous for having a racist and homophobic trustee. As the mother of a recent El Modena graduate and another in middle school, I worry Mrs Lebsack will further embarrass OUSD and am terrified of the damage she can do by allowing her biases to determine important decisions being made for and about OUSD students.</p> <p>After being drawn to Mrs. Lebsack's Facebook page by her post, a few things are abundantly clear: she is vehemently against anything associated with the Black Lives Matter or transgender identity affirmation. Given her tone deaf "joke" of a post, this is no surprise. She seems oddly obsessed with opposing anything that is inclusive of our transgendered population or anything really that supports our LGBTQ community. And this is after she "cleaned up" her page by deleting posts, there were of course screenshots which were shared on social media before she could delete them. I honestly wonder what it looked like before she came under this scrutiny.</p> <p>To Mrs. Lebsack I say this directly to you: Our LGBTQ students do not need YOUR protection from themselves as you envision it, they need protection FROM you. Please resign from your position on the board and allow someone who cares for all our students, not just the straight white ones, to take your place.</p> <p>Michelle Hernandez</p>
7/23/2020 15:40:29	Rachel Crawford	No	OCCA	Support Issue	I have been on the OCCA campus for around a month, helping it get ready for the school year. It has been a joy seeing the students come by, take pictures, and explore their new school. I am so grateful that OCCA is providing an opportunity for these students to receive a unique education. Thank you OUSD, for providing space for this style of education.	
7/23/2020 15:58:13	Nahyr Ruiz	Yes	7G	Support Issue	Our family is in support and favor of continuing to implement distance learning for the school year until our county is off Governor Newsom's watchlist for Covid19. I also believe this additional time before reopening in-person instruction can and should be used to prepare, train, and implement the myriad of safety measures that will be necessary before we can consider welcoming our students back to physical classrooms. Distance learning, while it can be inconvenient, is also the right choice for the safety of our children, our hard-working teachers, families, and ultimately; our community.	
7/23/2020 16:03:39	Marko Mittmann	Yes	6	N/A	Hola, new city of Orange resident here. As our nation and local communities fight for Black Lives, Equality, Justice, Freedom, and Education Reform, THANK YOU OUSD Board for REAL leadership, with REAL action towards realizing those goals, with your support of OC Classical Academy. 1000s of kids in Long Beach where I just left, including my own, only have access to one size fits all education. I've never met a one size fits all child...they all have beautiful personalities and unique needs requiring unique attention. Life is colorful and education options should be as well. THANK YOU Board for your support of OC Classical Academy. This decision was a seminal event for my family moving from Long Beach to Orange. Our new community in Orange is very pleased and PROUD with the direction OUSD is headed, leading the way for the county and nearby major cities, like Long Beach. Thank you Board for your long-term insight and investment in our children with OC Classical Academy. This shows one CLEAR step towards our fight for Equality, Justice and Freedom for those in need.	
7/23/2020 16:17:42	Jeffrey Nguyen	Yes	13-H (Consent Items - Educational Services - Level Chinese Curriculum)	Support Issue	<p>Good evening to all Board Members and all those in attendance. Thank you for navigating through these challenging times. Back in June I had made a public comment about the future of the immersion programs and how budget cuts may affect the ability to flourish and grow. I am glad to see that Fletcher Elementary is potentially obtaining this Level Chinese subscription based software program. However, I have some questions based on the agenda description.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When you say "assesses student's growth", does the mean a standardize type of test? How will this look through distance learning? Frequently of testing (Once in the beginning and at the end)? What grade level will the assessments begin? How do we know that this test has been administered just as it would have been in the classroom and the the results are true and correct? Standardize testing had been suspended this last school year, will this assessment do harm to our children and give children extra anxiety?</li> <li>2. "Decoding and comprehending in Mandarin". Could this definition be clarified? Will listening, reading and writing expectations be listed out by grade? My child entering into first grade can barely comprehend the listening component. Reading and writing is not there yet.</li> <li>3. This tool sounds like a good addition to help the teachers to differentiate instruction and promote students to be successful. Will the teachers be given the same support to be successful and learning to utilize this tools to it's fullest potential at the \$16,085 price tag?</li> </ol> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>	
7/23/2020 16:24:47	Josh Dam	No	OCCA Charter School	Support Issue	<p>Thank you for supporting OCCA. It's great to have leadership that is open to different type of education. Not all kids learn the same way.</p> <p>Thanks for letting OCCA take over this run down building and transform it so it's not an eye sore while helping the surrounding neighborhood.</p>	

7/23/2020 16:36:06	Robert Loewen	No		N/A	I want to thank the Board for approving Orange County Classical Academy (OCCA) to open as a charter school this Fall. OCCA provides unique opportunities for students that are not available in traditional schools. I realize that elected officials such as yourselves come under tremendous pressure from wealthy, powerful special interests whose agendas often are not consistent with what other constituents want. I truly believe that the public supports charter schools like OCCA, and I admire your courage for standing up for these constituents. I especially want to congratulate Trustees Lebsack, Ledesma, Ortega and Deleghianni for your stalwart defense of the kids.
7/23/2020 16:44:52	Anika Walia	Yes		N/A	<p>Good evening OUSD board members, students, and parents. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today regarding the Diversify Our Narrative campaign. Over the last few weeks, we have gathered over 850 signatures for our petition calling more BIPOC novels in all high school ELA classes, collected 100+ student experiences with racism in their school (some of which were read today), and worked with members of the district to discuss ways to tackle the racism we see in our district. Diversify Our Narrative OUSD commends Ms. Kathy Moffat, Ms. Andrea Yamasaki, Ms. Cathleen Corella, and Ms. Lisa Green for the work they are putting in toward creating a racially inclusive district and ensuring that we are taking the needed steps in these pressing times. Your eagerness to bring change and work together toward a better future should be an example to all.</p> <p>Despite what many may believe and have claimed in today's meeting, BIPOC representation in curriculum DOES matter. It is important for young and impressionable students to see themselves and their experiences in the stories of hope, change, and growth they encounter in their classrooms. The core foundations of a student's mindset is shaped in their high school experience, making it essential that productive conversations regarding race and equality are happening in our classrooms. As a district, OUSD has championed the EDGE plan, which aims for excellence and genuine wellness and safety for all students. However, a district that refuses to tackle the blatant racism students endure on a daily basis and chooses to erase BIPOC history and experiences from the curriculum is not working for ALL students. That is a district that is simply turning a blind eye to the rampant issues within their schools. We hope that you all work to continue to promote the values stated in OUSD EDGE, as an inclusive curriculum only enforces what we as a district stand for.</p> <p>As a district, we hope you continue to move forward with us in the fight for greater equality rather than alienating the BIPOC students you serve. And to all parents, current and former students, and teachers listening, if you want to be a part of fighting racism in OUSD and diversifying curriculums, we urge you to email us at <a href="mailto:diversifyournarrativeousd@gmail.com">diversifyournarrativeousd@gmail.com</a> or visit <a href="http://www.diversifyournarrative.com">www.diversifyournarrative.com</a> to get involved!</p>
7/23/2020 16:47:43	Jamar Rousseau	Yes	6	N/A	I just want to thank you Board members for your support of Orange county classical Academy. I myself never had access to this type of education choice when i was young and i am thrilled that my children have access this this option now. I like it when i see our officials make decisions that truly benefit the children and not anything or anyone else. Thank you for doing your job the right way, putting kids first, and thank you for your support of Orange county Classical academy.
7/23/2020 16:50:10	Jane Kim	Yes		Support Issue	<p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I am writing this to express my deep appreciation for the school board's support of the Orange County Classical Academy, and to describe why what this school and its leadership are offering to our community is unique and invaluable.</p> <p>Like many parents I have spent a lot of time in the literature about public school education and discovered that much of what troubles our classrooms has to do with an unfortunate neglect of time spent on subject matter instruction. As the cognitive science, case studies, and literature has shown over the last 30 years, the development of deep literacy that is so critical for the future of our kids depends on a strong knowledge of a wide range of subject matter. Schools that dedicate extensive class time to content rich, coherent, and cumulative subject matter instruction including history, civics, literature, art as well as science and mathematics achieve this far better than the traditional alternative public schools.</p> <p>For those interested in the research I can recommend recent texts by [E.D. Hirsch](<a href="https://www.amazon.com/Why-Knowledge-Matters-Rescuing-Educational/dp/1612509525/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&amp;keywords=why%20knowledge%20matters&amp;qid=1595542561&amp;sr=8-2">https://www.amazon.com/Why-Knowledge-Matters-Rescuing-Educational/dp/1612509525/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&amp;keywords=why%20knowledge%20matters&amp;qid=1595542561&amp;sr=8-2</a>), [Natalie Wexler](<a href="https://www.amazon.com/Knowledge-Gap-Americas-education-system/dp/0735213550/ref=sr_1_3?dchild=1&amp;keywords=why%20knowledge%20matters&amp;qid=1595542592&amp;sr=8-3">https://www.amazon.com/Knowledge-Gap-Americas-education-system/dp/0735213550/ref=sr_1_3?dchild=1&amp;keywords=why%20knowledge%20matters&amp;qid=1595542592&amp;sr=8-3</a>), and Cognitive Scientist [Daniel Willingham](<a href="https://www.amazon.com/Why-Dont-Students-Like-School/dp/047059196X/ref=sr_1_3?crd=UYAWSZUSWL7H&amp;dchild=1&amp;keywords=daniel%20willingham&amp;qid=1595542637&amp;sprefix=da-niel%20willingham%2Caps%2C203&amp;sr=8-3">https://www.amazon.com/Why-Dont-Students-Like-School/dp/047059196X/ref=sr_1_3?crd=UYAWSZUSWL7H&amp;dchild=1&amp;keywords=daniel%20willingham&amp;qid=1595542637&amp;sprefix=da-niel%20willingham%2Caps%2C203&amp;sr=8-3</a>). For those interested in the data behind the curriculum OCCA uses I can recommend research showing that it's K-8 curriculum, called [Core Knowledge](<a href="https://www.coreknowledge.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/How-Do-We-Know-This-Works1.pdf">https://www.coreknowledge.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/How-Do-We-Know-This-Works1.pdf</a>), has proven profoundly effective at [improving student outcomes](<a href="https://www.the74million.org/article/curriculum-case-study-how-one-district-tackled-38-reading-proficiency-with-content-rich-curriculum-it-feels-as-though-the-ship-has-turned/">https://www.the74million.org/article/curriculum-case-study-how-one-district-tackled-38-reading-proficiency-with-content-rich-curriculum-it-feels-as-though-the-ship-has-turned/</a>) not just for middle and upper class students but even greater gains for [students from struggling communities](<a href="https://www.coreknowledge.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/CK-Early-Literacy-Pilot-3-12-121.pdf">https://www.coreknowledge.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/CK-Early-Literacy-Pilot-3-12-121.pdf</a>).</p> <p>Additionally, the High School curriculum OCCA uses (modeled on Ridgeview Classical Schools in Colorado) is in fact [endorsed by Core Knowledge](<a href="https://web.archive.org/web/20160910160211/http://www.coreknowledge.org/mimik/mimik_uploads/documents/91/After%20Core%20Knowledge.pdf">https://web.archive.org/web/20160910160211/http://www.coreknowledge.org/mimik/mimik_uploads/documents/91/After%20Core%20Knowledge.pdf</a>) as an excellent continuation of the principles behind its K-8 curricula.</p> <p>To those who criticize OCCA and those who have supported it I ask them. have they done the research behind what this school's</p>

7/23/2020 16:52:01	Stacey Meis	Yes	Non-agenda	N/A	<p>Thank you Superintendent Dr. Hansen and Esteemed Board Trustees for the opportunity to address the board. I am writing today to express my concern over board member Brenda Lebsack's July 1, 2020 statement sent to OUEA, and shared on her Facebook page. The letter seems to have been Mrs. Lebsack's attempt at satire criticizing the teacher's union, but served to very publicly reveal and confirm her long standing discriminatory agenda and intolerance for issues she "doesn't understand." As a parent with children attending schools in the district, as a special needs educator, and as a community member, I am consistently appalled by Mrs. Lebsack's divisive rhetoric. Her July 1st letter took it to new levels. She is so blinded by her narrow views that she thinks it is acceptable to minimize and trivialize oppression and marginalization.</p> <p>With mental health issues exacerbated by the pandemic and with civil rights issues and race relations forefront on our minds, Mrs. Lebsack chooses to lead with her narrow worldview. Her agenda, as evidenced by her letter, demeans the LGBTQ+ community, non-Christians, and people of color.</p> <p>Her letter reveals exactly who she is. It is not funny, it is not ironic, it does not burn the teachers union. It reveals a hurtful belief system and her mission to promote her way of thinking as the only way. She doesn't belong on our board, representing our kids or our community. The attention she has brought OUSD is an embarrassment. The only positive thing to come of the episode is an outpouring of responses and public awareness that Brenda Lebsack does not serve the community she was elected to serve. We need to replace her this November with a candidate who truly cares about all students, all staff, and who comes to the dais without prejudice.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/23/2020 16:54:07	Esther Hudson	Yes	Public Comment	N/A	<p>This Fall my son will be attending Orange County Classical Academy (OCCA). I have heard amazing things about Classical Education but never thought my children would have the opportunity to have this type of education unless I took on this endeavor at home with homeschooling which would never happen since I am a working mom. My family is deeply grateful for the Orange Unified Board supporting OCCA and for believing in this school. I support OCCA Mission to develop exceptional citizens who are keepers and defenders of the principles of our freedom, while also instilling intellectual and personal habits and skills upon which responsible, independent and productive lives are built. I am thankful for this opportunity for my children. I do support families being able to choose the school that works best for their child and not be limited to their zip code. School choice also allows for children who are underprivileged to have opportunities for better education. I wanted to thank the Orange Board of Trustees for making OCCA a reality for many families. for my family. I am deeply grateful. Thank you very much.</p>
7/23/2020 16:57:24	Amy Case	Yes	7-G and 11-A	N/A	<p>Members of the Board, Superintendent Hansen and Assistant Superintendents,</p> <p>7-GRe-Imagining Schools Plan</p> <p>As a committed and invested member of the OUSD community and a parent of an OUSD student, I would like to know the specifics of the district's plan for reopening our schools so that our campuses are safe for all students, staff and faculty to attend.</p> <p>After hearing about the political stunt that the OCBE pulled in an attempt to manipulate the safety of our children, I was very relieved to hear the guidance of the state, and I want to applaud you for following recommendations from the scientific community rather than the OCBE political agenda.</p> <p>We are living through a global pandemic, and as much as we want things to return to "normal", we must follow logic and science to assemble a plan to reopen safely and reduce the risk to our children and our greater community. Thank you OUSD for putting the safety of our children, families, and OUSD teachers and staff first.</p> <p>11-A Gifts</p> <p>On behalf of Canyon High School and the Canyon High School Foundation, I want to thank OUSD for partnering with us to fully fund the Canyon Gym Renovation project. Our community came together to raise \$300,000 in funds for this project since 2017, and we are ecstatic to present the district with our final payment of \$85,546.74 for your approval tonight. We can't wait to see the completed renovation this winter that will be enjoyed by many future generations of Comanches to come.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/23/2020 17:01:30	Kelly	Yes	Public Comment	Support Issue	<p>OCCA has announced that they are a nut free school to help try to keep our daughter and all other kids with allergies like her safe. We have found that there are very few if any schools in Orange County that are completely nut free for ALL grade levels. OCCA's allergy policy is by far the best we have seen! This means the world to us.</p> <p>We also chose OCCA for their classical education, content rich curriculum, and core virtues.</p> <p>We believe it's important for families in the OUSD to have a variety of schools to choose from.</p>

7/23/2020 17:02:29	Darshan Smaaladen	Yes	CHOC MOU student mental health		<p>At a time when everyone is concerned about the mental health of our students, especially because of distance learning, why are we allowing trustees to forward their own personal agendas at the expense of OUSD students? I would like to implore the board to place the CHOC Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU), which would give students and teachers access to much needed mental health resources, on an agenda in the near future. The vast majority of school districts in Orange County are already taking advantage of FREE services being provided by a hospital that is WITHIN our own district boundaries. It makes no sense when mental health resources are so underfunded to not utilize this resource. President Ortega, you last pulled the MOU from the agenda, so you are ultimately responsible for the delay. I sincerely hope you have a legitimate reason and simply did not allow Trustee Lebsack to convince you to do it at her behest. Or worse yet, on behalf of outside entities. Trustee Lebsack you have made it crystal clear you abhor CHOC for opening a gender clinic. Isn't that a case of throwing the baby out with the bathwater? Your own personal bias should not be allowed to deny students a resource. To the rest of the board I ask: Will you allow Trustee Lebsack, with President Ortega, to make a choice to the detriment of our many students who could use these resources simply because you're so anti-LGBTQ that you refuse to agree to have anything to do with CHOC? These are, as everyone keeps saying, unprecedented times, our students, our teachers and our families are under extreme stress and could use tools to help cope and overcome, your actions, or rather your inaction, deny them critical resources.</p> <p>Darshan Smaaladen</p>
7/23/2020 17:03:11	Simon	No		N/A	<p>I am fully supportive of the Orange County Classical Academy; I believe this charter school is a wonderful choice to have for the children. Thomas Sowell, who has been studying charter schools for many decades, has a new book, "charter schools and their enemies". In the book is copious proof that charter schools are, on average, far superior for the children. I personally know the founders of this school and have no doubt they will do a great job.</p>
7/23/2020 17:03:34	Steve Borowski	No	I definitely support the OCCA. Much better than the alternative. Do something in the children's best interest.	Support Issue Yes	
7/23/2020 17:04:09	Brandon Curington	Yes		N/A	<p>Good Evening, I wanted to say thank you to OUSD and those who supported Orange County Classic Academy. This is an important and great opportunity for my children. The opportunity to learn in a classical fashion, and focus on literature and communicating in a respectful and informed nature. We are deeply grateful for all those that supported OCCA.</p>
7/23/2020 17:05:07	Charles Bushman	No	PUBLIC HEARING - INITIAL PROPOSAL TO THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, CHAPTER Item D- #67, FOR 2020-21 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS	N/A	<p>Brandon Curington</p> <p>Esteemed district leadership and honorable board members thank you for hearing my comments. My name is Charles Bushman and I am a teacher at Canyon High School. I am concerned with OUSD's unwillingness to increase compensation as part of the 2019/2020 contract. This stance is occurring after the district asked teachers to give their instruction remotely. We had to redesign our courses without district help in a short amount of time while many of us had to deal with changes in our own family situation. Despite teachers rising to these challenges superbly the district refuses to reward its instructors. In addition thought this pandemic one message has been repeated by parents as their children remain at home. They comment that teaching is extremely difficult and that teachers deserve more money. Despite these statements the district seems disinterested in a pay raise for teachers.</p> <p>I believe one reason for this is that the district has forgotten that we are in a completion with other schools for the best instructors. They fail to remember that there are only so many good teachers and it is important that our great district attracts the best candidates for future. This point can be made if the leadership looks at the re-opening of professional sports. The NBA team owners have lost millions of dollars due to a lack of ticket sales and television broadcast of their product. However the Los Angeles Lakers have not stopped pursuing a championship and it would be foolish of this district to waver from its goal. Furthermore the future salaries of the Lakers players will only go up because of the team's continuing commitment to excellence. So I ask is OUSD also committed to greatness or are we returning to the days when bright young teachers would work for the district for a few years before going to a higher paying district for their career.</p> <p>Finally I want you to consider the fact that at some point school's will return to face to face learning. No matter how safely this is done there is some risk involved and as a person with a health condition that puts me in danger of catching Covid-19 you will be risking my life. So the obvious question is how much is my life worth? One thing is clear, to Orange Unified it is not worth more than I am currently being paid.</p>
7/23/2020 17:06:20	Kathy Mary Gremer	No		N/A	<p>I am writing in very strong support of OCCA. I have a daughter who lives in Orange with a son who will be in 5th grade next year. He is a GATE student who would benefit greatly from the comprehensive classical education that will be the norm at OCCA. In general I believe that charter schools produce better educated children overall and especially believe this is a great advantage to unprivileged children who could not afford private education such as parochial schools. I greatly appreciate that the Board voted to establish OCCA thereby providing a higher level education for all students in attendance regardless of their financial capabilities.</p>
7/23/2020 17:12:15	Janet Surman	No	6A	N/A	<p>I am writing because it is my understanding that the district has funds allotted for teachers salary increases for the 19/20 school. I also understand that these funds have nothing to do with any funds for the Covid crisis and our schools. I do not understand why we are the only teachers in Orange County who have not received a raise for the 19/20 school year. As a teacher of Orange Unified School District for over 22 years, along with many of my peers, we do not feel valued by our district. Please do the right thing so there is equity between us and the other teachers in Orange County who received their raises before the Covid crisis in March. Thank you.</p>

7/23/2020 17:30:47	Valerie Vichikov	Yes			<p>Dear Board of Education,</p> <p>The Vichikov family wanted to thank you for allowing OCCA to open as a charter school. We moved to Orange a year ago and were too late to choose a public school for our child. We were wait listed at several of our choices but they didn't budge so we chose to homeschool. We did visit our assigned school but decided, after talking with personnel and teachers there and at other neighboring public schools, that our assigned school would not be the best fit for our child. Homeschooling had its advantages, but ultimately it's weaknesses (lack of daily social education, poorly developed curriculum with little oversight and changing "rules" due to Sacramento) led us to believe that a physical school location would be optimal. We were THRILLED when we discovered OCCA. With its well developed curriculum, focus on classical virtues which are so lacking in today's society, parental input on extra curriculums and fantastic location (amongst other things), we decided it was the school for us. Thank you, thank you for being a supporter of school choice and believing that one set type does not fit all. Even if any of you believe another curriculum is better or another type of school is better, that's okay. You stand by the freedom to choose and you've allowed us to have options and for that we thank you.</p>
7/23/2020 17:37:42	Michelle Weisenberg	Yes	6. Public Comment	N/A	<p>Good evening. I would first like to thank Dr. Hansen, her staff, and the board members who have been working very hard to help us come up with a new way to educate our children during this unprecedented global pandemic.</p> <p>This evening I would like, as a parent in our district, to shine a spotlight on board members Brenda Lebsack and John Ortega, and expose how their corrupt behaviors show blatant disregard for the students, families, teachers, and staff of OUSD in exchange for lining their pockets.</p> <p>Mrs. Lebsack's recent supposedly satirical letter to OUEA was filled with examples of her long history of bigotry against the LGBTQ community. Mrs. Lebsack's extremist views of course align perfectly with most of the members on the Orange County Board of Education, including Mary Barke. I did a little digging and it turns out that it isn't just mindsets that they have in common, it's money. Always follow the money, for money buys corruption.</p> <p>Both John Ortega and Mrs. Lebsack were recipients of a windfall from the political PAC known as OC Advocates for Great Public Schools. In the 2016 election cycle, 97% of their campaign donations came from this PAC, which just so happens to be run by the petitioners for the Orange County Classical Academy charter school, run by Mark Bucher and Dr. Jeff Barke, who is the husband of Orange County Board of Education member Mari Barke. Ortega and Lebsack then both voted to approve OCCA, despite a 16-page report of problems in the charter's application presented by the district. Without those donations, would either trustee have even been elected? Did they now feel like they owed something to this group? Obviously, their votes were bought and paid for by the donors from OCCA, whose corrupt causes they voted for.</p> <p>In addition, both Lebsack and Ortega are up for re-election this year. Did their upcoming campaigns depend upon their OCCA vote in order to ensure future campaign funding, since they seem to have no other funding to speak of?</p> <p>OCCA's founder and chairman Jeff Barke's wife Mari Barke sits on the OCBOE. Mrs. Barke raised an unprecedented amount of money -- nearly a quarter of a million dollars -- most of which came from a charter schools PAC. Ortega and Lebsack's campaign money came from a charter school PAC that is linked to the others. This whole system is just an exercise in people putting money in pocket of each other and their spouses. These tangled connections lead us back to just another arm of the charter school push, an effort to dismantle public education and funnel students to charter and private schools who are backed by heavily funded PACs. This amounts to the public funding of religious academies.</p> <p>We need to know that our OUSD board members are here to fight for the best interests of our students and their families, and not for power or their pocketbooks. I hope that voters in November will remember Mrs. Lebsack and Mr. Ortega and their corrupt activities, and they will at last be removed from the OUSD school board.</p>
7/23/2020 17:47:20	Cassandra Fraulino	Yes	PUBLIC COMMENT	N/A	<p>I am a parent of a child attending OCCA, an amazing classical charter school. School choice has finally come to parents in our area! This is fantastic and long over due. As you know school choice has been severely lacking in Orange County. It is so important that EVERYONE has a choice for their children, not just those with means. As a parent it is critical to make the best decision possible for our child's education. We have one opportunity to educate our children and prepare them for the world. My child does better with structure that other schools don't offer and so OCCA is a much better fit for our family. He is excited about joining as a 5th grader and being the first graduating class for OCCA.</p> <p>Classical education is stellar and proven. OCCA has put together a great curriculum and strong educators to deliver a valuable education to our kids. My son is particularly excited about the curriculum and focus on classics in literature and history.</p> <p>Thank you so much for voting to support OCCA. Your vote supports freedom and the rights of parents to choose the best educational fit for their children. How can we make a choice if there are no options from which to choose?</p> <p>Appreciatively,</p>
7/23/2020 17:47:26	Jeffrey Barke	No	N/A	N/A	<p>Cassandra Fraulino</p> <p>Dear Board Members, Superintendent, and OUSD staff - I bring you an update on Orange County Classical Academy charter school. We have fantastic news to share with you. OCCA is prepared to open on August 13th. We are full at 360 scholars and we have over 200 children on our waiting list. Our families are coming from all over Orange County and beyond. We have two families that will be commuting from Pasadena and one family from South Gate. Our teachers and staff have been undergoing orientation and Hillsdale College will be sending 5 trainers to Orange County to conduct professional development and classical education training for our teachers and staff. Our school board has meet several times and are enthusiastically providing support for our school. Our beautiful campus is coming together including our signature garden that has a peaches, lemons, and avocados. I want to personally thank the courageous OUSD board members, Board President John Ortega, Brenda Lebsack, Alexia Deligianni, and Rick Ledesma, that voted to approve our charter. We look forward to our continued good relationship with OUSD staff and appreciate the support offered by OUSD Superintendent Dr. Hansen who has been on our Zoom board meetings. Our focus is providing the best possible education to our scholars and support for our families. I look forward to providing you with updates in the future. Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Jeffrey Barke, M.D. Board Chair OCCA.</p>



7/23/2020 17:49:05	Kerri Edlund	Yes		N/A	I am Orange USD parent who lives in the city of Orange. I just want to thank the board for approving the OCCA Charter school. School choice is so important and we are very excited about our youngest attending OCCA this fall. He has medical challenges that affect his learning, so it is very important being able to choose the school that is the best fit for him in order for him to meet his full potential. Orange USD made the right choice in approving OCCA. Thank you!
7/23/2020 17:49:12	Chelsea Gillon	Yes	We support OCCA!	Support Issue	We 100% support OCCA! It's a stress relief and refreshing to know that we will be able to have a private school style of learning and representation, but at a public charter school that will be open and available to students of all classes. We align with the mission and values of OCCA. They value working in partnership and that lacks in so many public school settings. Why wouldn't you want the best tuition free education for your students, sons, daughters, cousins, friends, etc. It's time we start having schools who actually hear the parents and see the students. It's time we have a school that doesn't blur lines and stands up for what they believe. They believe in higher education for their students and believe in an administration that takes all morals and values into consideration. It would be a hurt upset to the kids and families in the community to not have OCCA!
7/23/2020 17:53:41	Dean Fraulino	Yes	PUBLIC COMMENT	N/A	Thank you for your support of OCCA where my son will be attending. As a parent of four children, I have seen one size does not fit all when it comes to education. Each child is unique and unique needs. Each family has different priorities. OCCA is offering parents a classical education with a focus on the character of the individual not just the academics. As a father, my goal is to raise a man of integrity to make a positive and lasting difference in the world. I strongly believe that OCCA partners with me in that goal in ways that other schools can not.  Thank you for voting to support OCCA, it is wonderful to know that you value parental choice when it comes to education. It is good to know that you understand that school choice is paramount to our success as a community and nation.  Respectfully, Dean Fraulino
7/23/2020 18:01:22	Hanna Rhee	Yes	OCCA	Support Issue	OCCA is a school that provides the needs and desires for our family. I believe in the values and its educational philosophy. We are a family that has been homeschooling classically for 4 years and been waiting to be part of a bigger community like this. We are thankful for the school choice that we have and that we can attend OCCA. I am ever so grateful to those that contributed in establishing OCCA.
7/23/2020 18:01:23	Ingred Shine	No	17 A. Non agenda public comment.	N/A	I am a 17-year educator for the Orange Unified School District and I am writing to tell you how furious I am over the disparaging comments Trustee Brenda Lebsack made in a public forum earlier this month. Her intolerance of the LGBTQ community, her anti-public school rhetoric, and her narrow-minded attitude toward comprehensive sex education are appalling. Ms. Lebsack used her power and leverage as both a Christian educator and a trustee to spread vitriolic statements against teachers and students in this community. She neither serves as a good example of an educator nor a trustee. Thank you to those on this board who have come out in opposition to her remarks. This discriminatory behavior deems her unfit to serve the great students and community of the Orange Unified School District. I am looking forward to her replacement on this board in November.
7/23/2020 18:02:06	Darren Kempkes	No	Charter School OCCA	Support Issue	School Choice through charter schools is extremely important to our community and city. I am so grateful for the four board members, Brenda Lebsack, Rick Ledesma, John Ortega, and Alexandria Delegianni, who voted to give parents and grandparents of the city of Orange a choice of where they want their children and grand children to receive an education. I have had so many neighbors excited about the opportunity to send their student to Orange County Classical Academy starting this school year. Parents want a choice of what curriculum is presented to their children and OCCA will provide that back to basics, conservative, classical education free of progressive social experimentation. As a public school educator of 25+ years I have seen this experimentation at work and see it fail our students. It is unfortunate that educators are forced to present curriculum and carry out policy that they know is not best for their students including the recent k-12 health curriculum. Thank you for a choice, and being our voice Brenda, Rick, John, and Alexandria! You are our champions!
7/23/2020 18:04:16	D'ellen Gomez	Yes	Teacher Contract for the 2019-2020 compensation	Support Issue	Good evening Board, I would like to request that careful thought be given to the 2019-2020 compensation of the teachers. The teachers stepped up when no one else was willing or able to do so at the level of expertise they did. They created loving and caring environments for families and students in a very scary time. They went above and beyond for the right reasons. It only makes sense that on the eve of asking them to do this again and possibly for longer or in a fluctuating state, we won't settle the year priors compensation with a cost of living increase. Teachers pay for so many things out of their pockets because they love their students. A cost of living is not an outlandish request. It should have been done and completed prior to the pandemic outbreak. Fortunately for you they were willing to go above and beyond without knowing. Please make it your priority to compensate your staff to show how much they were and are appreciated. Thank you.
7/23/2020 18:05:49	Whitney Mittmann	Yes	1) C and 6) A		Orange Unified School District, I wanted to start by thanking the Board of Trustees who voted to support our school. Orange Coast Classical Academy is groundbreaking for the city and county of Orange and we are proud to be a part of it, as residents in the community. I never thought that my children would have the opportunity to go to a Classical Academy, because most are private schools and financially out of reach for a family like mine. I fully support charter schools and school choice. OCCA is a great example of improving public education options for under privileged families. Thank you Board for providing an equal opportunity for underprivileged children in our community. Thank you Board for paving the way to try new things that would spur innovation throughout the entire public system. My community is thrilled to see Orange board members choosing to take the lead and stand up for OCCA. A Classically based education model is another way to expand the avenues of education and meet the different learning styles of all our unique and beautiful children. Options like these have restored my hope in the Public School system.
7/23/2020 18:10:22	Garett Heffner	No	Public Comment	Support Issue	Sincerely, a proud Orange resident and Parent to a OCCA student Thank you for taking the time to read my comment. I am a parent of a soon to be 5th grader attending Orange County Classical Academy. While my comment may be brief, the weight of emotion and passion attached to the excitement my wife and I share isn't diminished by it's length. We cannot express the extent of the gratitude for the board, the city of Orange and the Orange Unified School District enough. Through acquaintances, friends and family, we are honored to be a part of a school and community that is dedicated to the children of tomorrow and we are honored to be a part of something special. We've chosen to leave PYLUSD for an opportunity for our son to attend this highly regarded new charter school. It's so important for us to continue to have choices and this allows for us to choose to attend OCCA. Thank you for taking the time to read this message. We appreciate you and the efforts all of you have put forth in making our children your primary focus.

7/23/2020 18:20:32	Christina Rickard	Yes	Agenda 7C	Support Issue	<p>Good Evening Board Members and Cabinet, I have two students in the orange unified school district. I had a third child but pulled him out due to lack of support for the mandarin program and unknown approach to the sex ed curriculum. I would like to know why Trustee Lebsack was attacked so ruthlessly and unprofessionally on OUEA's facebook page. What I read from some of OUEA's educators literally disgusted me. I do not understand why her satire was so offensive. Although it was meant for humor, it was not hateful toward people. It was poking fun at an ideology that CTA is promoting. An ideology of identity politics that many parents find ridiculous. Parents do not want their kids to be judged in school by the color of their skin, their gender, sexual orientation or religion, yet the CTA says these are categories of privilege or oppression. Will white children be shamed and guilted for the color of their skin? Yes, we need to stand for injustices, such as police brutality, but everything has gone too far. The satire brilliantly demonstrated that if teachers REALLY believe these categories of privilege and oppression then their pocketbooks should match their convictions. If you felt it was hateful because she alluded to the ability for sexual orientations or gender identities to change, well this was not her idea. The idea is from CTA. They say gender and sexual orientations can be fluid. Fluid means changeable or fluctuating. If you felt it was hateful because she alluded to ethnicity being based on perception, well this was not her idea either. The idea is from the Calif School Board Policy, (5145.3a). Read it for yourself. If you felt it was hateful because she said the Q in LGBTQ stands for Queer or Questioning, well that wasn't her idea either. It is stated in the curriculum and laws. Her points are valid, and once you think more rationally about these emotionally charged claims of identity politics, the whole idea becomes a house of cards. If teachers in OUEA truly believe in tolerance and respect, then they need to practice what they preach.</p>
7/23/2020 18:24:10	Tim Jones	Yes	Public Comment	Support Issue	<p>We are so excited for the new charter school, OCCA. We have been beyond impressed from the camaraderie of the families enrolled there, the responsiveness of the administration, and the school spirit.</p> <p>The classical curriculum is very appealing to us and so are their core virtues. I would also like to mention the importance of having a completely nut free school in the district.</p>
7/23/2020 18:25:18	Susan Farano	Yes		N/A	Need in classroom teaching
7/23/2020 18:27:58	Lisa Regn	Yes		N/A	Thank you so much Orange Unified for supporting school choice! Our home school is in Orange Unified School District and we have chosen to send our children to Orange County Classical Academy next year because of the rigorous curriculum they have chosen to develop the whole child and their mission to develop children in both mind and character. Thank you for your votes allowing us this option! We are so excited for the start of the school year!
7/23/2020 18:28:08	Dawn Curington	No		N/A	I am a Grandma whose kids went to public school, I appreciate OCCA.
7/23/2020 18:29:27	Gheorghe Rosca	Yes	#6	Oppose Issue	<p>Dear OUSD Board Members and Superintendent Hansen,</p> <p>My name is Gheorghe Rosca. I am a father of 4 children with my two older kids attending Crescent Elementary in OUSD. I would like to address any board member who is even faintly thinking about adoption of Black Lives Matter curriculum. I find it outright offensive that people would even suggest bringing in curriculum from a Communist organization. I will state it fight up front. Black Lives Matter curriculum is a Trojan Horse for Marxist/Communist activism. In Communism, you always start with the impressionable minds of children feeding them utopian philosophies that are nowhere to be found in the real world application of Marxism.</p> <p>I was born in a communist country and for those of you who have merely studied it from afar I will pay for a one-way ticket for you to not just visit, but live in a communist country. Interestingly enough, no country calls itself communist; we were known as the Socialist Republic of Romania. From 1945 until 1989 my people suffered under the cruel totalitarian regimes of Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej and Nicolae Ceausescu. Well over 100,000 people went "missing" during this time period. No freedom of thought, expression, religion, markets, education, ownership, etc. Everything was owned and controlled by the government. Who ran the government? The people at the top. They called all the shots. It wasn't the "proletariat" as foolishly envisioned by Karl Marx. My grandfather had his house and farmland taken away under the "collectivist movement" which nationalized all farming. Everything he inherited from the hard work of his ancestors was all gone in one day. My dad was born in 1951, six years into the Communist reign. Looking back at his life I could say this with certainty, he was not a free man. He was a slave to the government. He was fined one month's worth of salary in 1975 because he sang Christian songs on our front porch. He was routinely taken into custody by the secret police for questioning to know the whereabouts of new Christian converts. Finally, after many years of this abuse they arrested and imprisoned him without cause in 1982 keeping him for 1 month in jail and 6 months on house arrest where he was fined 70% of his monthly salary. How do you support a family of 7 children on 30% of your salary? Apparently, the Communist Government didn't care!</p> <p>Do you know that Black Lives Matter was started by trained Marxists? A New York Post article dated June 25, 2020 uncovered that "co-founder Patrisse Cullors said in a newly surfaced video from 2015 that she and her fellow organizers are "trained Marxists" – making clear their movement's ideological foundation." Do you know what they really believe in? Let me give you a few of their pointers from their "what we believe" statement on their website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•"We engage comrades with the intent to learn about and connect with their contexts."</li> <li>•"We disrupt the Western-prescribed nuclear family structure requirement by supporting each other as extended families and "villages" that collectively care for one another, especially our children, to the degree that mothers, parents, and children are comfortable."</li> <li>•"We embody and practice justice, liberation, and peace in our engagements with one another." (except when rioting and looting on the streets!)</li> </ul>
7/23/2020 18:31:07	Kristi Carlson	Yes		N/A	I just wanted to thank the Board of Trustees for their hard work and voting to support the Orange County Classical Academy. Our family is coming from a private school and are so excited to be a part of this new public charter school. Having the ability to choose a public school that meets our family's needs and offers a classical education right here in the Orange Unified School District is such a blessing! Thank you for making this possible!

7/23/2020 18:32:11	Jade Ausmus	Yes	Public Comments		<p>Greeting to President Ortega, Trustees and OUSD Staff,</p> <p>As a parent, I would like to address the employees in Orange Unified who harass and criticize board members who support Public Schools and many other types of educational options, such as charter and home school. As a resident and tax payer, I am appalled of the arrogance of union member teachers. I have always respected teachers, however, it appears, at least the loudest and most obnoxious ones, think they know what's best for my child. Excuse me, but did YOU carry my child for 9 months? Did YOU get up at all hours of the night to feed my crying babies? Was it YOU who cleaned up their vomit or worked double shifts to afford them extra luxuries? NO IT WAS NOT! Stop your solidarity rhetoric. You have forgotten who funds your paychecks. We need MORE choice in education not LESS choice.</p> <p>The teachers union in LA wants to defund the police at a time when we've experienced the most National School Shootings! How is this making schools a safer place for our kids? They are holding parents hostage to their outrageous demands. They are acting like spoiled children. This union gravy train needs to STOP!! Entitlement needs to STOP!</p> <p>The teachers union endorsed AB 329, the Calif Healthy Youth Act, which removed the requirement of Parent Permission Slips for Sex Education for ALL grades levels. How is this in the best interest of parents and families?</p> <p>The Teachers Union now endorses Black Lives Matter. Though it might sound great from the outside, that candy coating melts fast when you look inside. Josh Hammer, a columnist wrote (and I paraphrase) "the American system of governance and way of life is under threat by groups such as BLM and Antifa" The Democratic Party and (soon to be also, the teachers union) is a dog wagged by the tail of these two insurrectionist groups who HATE America. We are in a fight for America's soul, but we are also in a fight for America itself."</p> <p>The teachers union embraces Ethnic Study classes that seeks to rewrite history and indoctrinate future generations with propaganda. Why does the teachers union want to teach kids to hate their country rather than to be proud of this great nation? Why? Because we are only free in America due to those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. They did this because they LOVED their country. However, a person will not die for something they hate. Therefore, with this change in attitude, freedoms which were gained through sacrifice, will be impossible to keep. Education is a POWERFUL TOOL and when it's placed into the WRONG HANDS, it's used for evil rather than good. Most teachers are good, noble people, but they are funding a union that is out to destroy our country through distorted education. Teachers, wake up and defund your corrupt union, before they successfully defund everything in our country that stands for law and order. including your own job.</p>
7/23/2020 18:33:00	Nathan J Swaneek	Yes	PUBLIC COMMENT	N/A	<p>We live in Orange and have been paying property taxes for close to 20 years. We have never felt comfortable sending our child to public school. OCCA has changed that. We are beyond thrilled to be sending our daughter and soon, our son to a school that encompasses the educational goals and values we expect. Local schools often do not listen to the wants and needs of local citizens but instead, to people thousands of miles away. Local school districts were set up originally to meet the needs of local residents. Finally, THIS school fulfills that promise! While this school may not be to the liking of everyone, we deserve a choice, and OCCA it is meeting the need of a large percent of Orange residents, as evidenced by the waitlist!</p>
7/23/2020 18:33:29	Bethany Thomas	Yes	Orange County Classical Academy	N/A	<p>To whom it may concern, Thank you so much for your support of the Orange County Classical Academy. I am thrilled to be sending my oldest daughter to this school this Fall and know she will thrive in the classical education style where she will be taught not what to think, but how to think for herself. As a single mom who would never be able to afford private school, I am so excited to have OCCA as a choice for my children! I look forward to what the future holds for them as they learn to be responsible, independent, and productive members of the Orange County community and defenders of the principles of our freedoms! Once again, thank you!</p>
7/23/2020 18:34:00	S. Turner	No	Item G	N/A	<p>I am a concerned member of the community who is also African-American. I also have close acquaintances who are OC teachers and school board members. There is some serious concern regarding the possible implementation of curriculum developed by Black Lives Matter, that centers around issues of race, diversity and social justice. I have seen some of this curriculum and I also have concerns. There appears to be a noticeable emphasis surrounding gender identity, children being encouraged to choose their gender, an emphasis on social justice from a Marxist/Progressive and ideology and other pro-leftist thought. There doesn't seem to be any emphasis on diversity of life experience, diversity of thought or critical thinking and how to have meaningful discourse with children who have different upbringing but are united by common good and universal ideas that unite rather than divide. We live in a polarized and angry public square. The last thing our children, from Kindergarten all the way to High School, need is to be fed any curriculum that seeks to indoctrinate and propagandize towards a Marxist/ultra progressive agenda. Our children need exposure to ideas that celebrate cultural diversity, community, care, forgiveness and free-thought. Our kids and their parents do not have a one size fits all life experience. Even among our families of color, political thought and ideas are as diverse as their culture. I am afraid the very narrow focused BLM curriculum, will train our children to become radicalized and rob them of the ability to think for themselves and to have a more diverse, balanced and effective understanding of race, equality and social justice concerns. Thank you for your time.</p>
7/23/2020 18:34:04	Jennifer Kennedy	Yes		N/A	<p>Hello, I want to personally thank you Orange Unified School District for approving Orange County Classical Academy into your school district. My husband and I are thrilled to have our 3 children attend this school. We appreciate the opportunity to enroll in this school and to have the choice to do it. We have been most impressed with the mission statement, curriculum, board and staff of OCCA. Their commitment to teaching students at a high level and with excellence has become evident in such a short time. The many teachers and families that we have connections to are thrilled about OUSD creating this opportunity through OCCA for students to receive such wonderful education. Thank you again for your diligence and hard work in making OUSD's schools an exceptional community with exceptional education for our children.</p>
7/23/2020 18:35:27	ELIZABETH	Yes	Agenda G- reimagining school plan	Support Issue	<p>Good evening, I am a parent and my son attends school in this school district. and I want to say Thank you to Trustee Lebsack for having the boldness and courage to speak the truth when it's hard. You are a teacher, a parent, a board member, a grandparent, and a member of the faith community. You have written articles, created YouTube videos, and have spoken in many forums to inform parents in Orange County and in the state of California about new educational laws, new policies and new curriculum that greatly impact our families. You have gone above and beyond the call of duty and I'm sorry for the disrespect you're receiving because of it. You help inform teachers about what their union is doing politically in Sacramento, when most teachers only know what their union is doing on a local level as it relates to their jobs. I don't see many other Trustees doing this. You speak the facts., you do your homework, you have a backbone. Many trustees in the state are just puppets. They believe whatever they are told by the "experts" without looking below the surface. Thank you Trustee Lebsack for the accurate and verified information you provide to your constituents and beyond. I want you to know that you have many people behind you.</p>
7/23/2020 18:37:03	Rob Curington	No		N/A	<p>As a grandparent I want to commend all Board members that supported the new charter school, Orange County Classical Academy. We are excited that our grandchildren will have the opportunity to learn of the classics and the foundations of humanities.</p>

7/23/2020 18:38:33	Melissa Musselwhite	Yes	OCCA/charters/school choice	Support Issue	<p>I am a parent of a child who will attend the new OCCA Charter school in OUSD. This option of schooling meant so much to my family. I am a working mom who decided last year I would do a Co-op homeschooling with my son. I based this decision on the atmosphere of the current school culture which my values do not line up with. I struggled with the co-op home school as my job is demanding of my attention and time. I knew I couldn't continue this upcoming school year with the co-op homeschooling. There were no options I felt that fit our family values until I heard of OCCA. It seemed like a dream come true to find a school that supports what I am trying to do at home with my son. With teachers who lead in a traditional classroom and establish the authority of the teacher so distractions of misbehavior can be minimized. Half of school days seem to be focusing on misbehavior rooted out of the lack of authority in classrooms. A curriculum that supports our family's values! Teaching real history, studying great literature, and pushing the children to critically think is what I believe all schools should be focused on. The classical education model seems to be supportive of all these things. If it was not for the SCHOOL CHOICE of OCCA I really don't know what I would have done. My family is truly in a better position because of the unwavering support of the Board of Trustees who supported OCCA. I can only imagine the blessing and gift this school is to other families who cannot afford a private education, who work full time and who are unhappy with their current school situation. Choices and opportunities for our children should be at the top of the list for our education system. Thank you for staying true to that vision and goal by supporting OCCA and school choice and charter schools in our communities. I hope this is the beginning of many more!</p> <p>Greetings President Ortega and Orange Unified Board Members, (Agenda Item G - Reimagining School Plan, Health of Students)</p> <p>In creating a safe and healthy school climate as you work on eventually re-opening schools, I think psychological health is just as important as physical health. I am concerned that some teachers in Orange Unified may not provide "safe climates" for students from more conservative households. This an election year, if the way Trustee Lebsack was treated is any indication of this type of treatment, then as parents our concerns are very real and concrete. Someone sent me a copy of OUEA's Facebook page and I was really shocked at the teachers' responses to Trustee Lebsack's insightful and witty satire. The teachers' comments were hateful and undeserved. Are these the same teachers that advocate for "safe school climates" and "anti-bullying"? If so, they are the biggest offenders and quite hypocritical. I truly believe that these distasteful comments were from a small minority of teachers in Orange Unified. We all know that more is caught than taught and I am VERY CONCERNED about the role models these educators are for students. If a student wrote a satire that a teacher did not agree with, is this how they would treat a student in their class? Or if a student was being harassed by other students for having a different perspective, would they turn a blind eye and allow it? This satire was not offensive. It made a point using humor. Maybe it struck a nerve because sometimes truth can offend. I believe we need to act like adults and realize that everyone has a right to their view point. Trustee Lebsack was elected in 2016 because her viewpoint is shared by MANY people, so when you demean her, remember you are demeaning MANY people and families in this community who have like views.</p>
7/23/2020 18:39:39	Shirley Van Dyke	No	Agenda Item G - Reimagining School Plan, N/A Health of Students		
7/23/2020 18:39:43	JOHNNY & JENNY NGUYEN	Yes	Public Comment	N/A	<p>Dear Board of Trustees, We are Johnny &amp; Jenny Nguyen and we have been residents of Orange for over 10 years. We are writing to express our gratitude to the Board for the Board's vote to approve the charter for the Orange County Classical Academy (OCCA). Our son is enrolled at OCCA and our daughter will be enrolled next year. We, and many other Orange families, have been looking for a school with a classical curriculum for a very long time and the creation of OCCA has been a wish come true. We thank you for your vote in support of OCCA, we hope for your continued support of OCCA, and we thank you for your service to the families of Orange.--</p> <p>Sincerely, Johnny &amp; Jenny Nguyen</p> <p>Dear Board and Superintendent Hansen,</p> <p>I am a parent in OUSD. I understand the OUEA FB page has been harassing board members who support charter schools. As a parent who believes ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL, and that parents know what's best for their children, I would like to know why teacher union members harass board members who support school choice? It's a very arrogant stance to take. It only reveals greed. Unions want to monopolize education so they do not have to share the tax payer dollars. News Flash: We, the PARENTS are TAX PAYERS. Teacher Union Members need to look at what their union is endorsing for education. This month the CTA sent out a magazine promoting BLACK LIVES MATTER. The slogan is noble and I agree with the title, that Black Lives Matter, however, have teachers taken a deeper look in what this movement endorses and does it represent the view of Union Card holding Teachers? Black Lives Matter believes racism is systemic, based on a system of white supremacy. Their intersectional theory asserts that people are often disadvantaged by multiple sources of oppression: their race, class, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and other identity markers. This is where Trustee Brenda's SATIRE comes from. Either these OUEA teachers are IGNORANT of the THEORY they are FUNDING through their union dues, or they don't understand the genre of SATIRES.</p> <p>According to Black Lives Matter, systemic racism can only be defeated by completely dismantling the American economic, political and social system and rebuilding it from scratch - according to Marxist principles. Black Lives Matter seeks to replace the foundational cornerstones of American Society: 1) abolish the Judeo-Christian concept of the traditional nuclear family 2) abolish the police and dismantle the prison system 3) mainstream multiple gender choices for young children, 4) abolish heteronormativity (the belief that heterosexuality is the norm) 5) abolish capitalism (a free economy) and replace it with communism (a government controlled economy). So my Union Teacher Friends, this is why parents are becoming more afraid of the public schools. They do not want their children indoctrinated with ideas being pushed into the schools through the teachers unions. If you say, "Well I'm a teacher, and I don't want those teaching in school". Then my question is, "WHY ARE YOU FUNDING IT"? Parents do not trust teachers who compromise their values for a salary perk. We want teachers who are NOT bribed to sear their conscience due to their unquestioning loyalty to their sugar daddy union. That's why we say THANK YOU to Trustee Ledesma, Ortega, Delegiani, and Lebsack. They are not owned by the Teachers Union. They are individual thinkers, looking out for the best interest of their constituents and support School Choice.</p>
7/23/2020 18:39:47	Bridget Rumbolz	Yes	Public Comment		
7/23/2020 18:40:12	Andrea Flournoy	Yes	Charters	N/A	<p>I want to show my deep appreciation to the board members who approved Orange County Classical Academy and support school choice for families. As a former public school teacher, current homeschooling mom, and now future parent of children in your district, I am excited about the classical education my children will receive thanks to your decision. The motto of our school "That Our Hearts May Be Wise" is exactly what my heart has been desiring for my children in a learning community. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for providing this opportunity for the many families who have chosen a classical education for their students.</p>

7/23/2020 18:41:17	Mike Davis	Yes	Public Comment	N/A	<p>Dear Member of the Board,</p> <p>I am writing this to express my deep appreciation for the school Board's support for the Orange County Classical Academy, and to describe why what this school and its leadership are offering to our community is unique and invaluable.</p> <p>As a parent of seven year old twins I have spent a lot of time in the literature about public school education and learned quickly that much of what troubles our classrooms has to do with an unfortunate neglect of time spent on subject matter instruction. As the cognitive science, case studies, and literature has shown over the last 30 years, the development of deep literacy that is so critical for the future of our kids depends on a strong knowledge of a wide range of subject matter. K-8 schools that dedicate extensive class time to content rich, coherent, and cumulative subject matter instruction including history, civics, literature, art as well as science and mathematics achieve this far better than the alternatives.</p> <p>For those interested in the research I can recommend recent texts by E.D. Hirsch, Natalie Wexler, and Cognitive Scientist Daniel Willingham. For those interested in the data behind the curriculum OCCA uses I can recommend research showing that it's K-8 curriculum, called Core Knowledge (1), has proven profoundly effective in improving student outcomes (2) not just for middle and upper class students but even greater gains for students from struggling communities (3).</p> <p>Additionally, the High School curriculum OCCA uses (modeled on Ridgeview Classical Schools in Colorado) is in fact endorsed by Core Knowledge as an excellent continuation of the principles behind its K-8 curricula (4).</p> <p>To those who criticize OCCA and its leaders I ask them, have they done the research behind what this school's curriculum has achieved for underserved kids? Because if they had, and they truly desire to close the achievement gap that haunts every institution of public education, they wouldn't criticize OCCA, they would emulate it.</p> <p>Thank you so much for supporting this school. In the coming years I believe the contribution of this school to our community will become so manifest you will be grateful for having done so.</p> <p>Yours Truly,</p> <p>Michael Davis</p>
7/23/2020 18:42:07	Amy Dam	No	Public comment	N/A	<p>Grateful Father to Ben and Emilv Davis. OCCA Scholars. I am very excited my children will be attending Orange County Classical Academy! The school's mission to develop students in both mind and character and emphasizing independence and virtue is what I am looking for in a school. OCCA means a lot to my kids. They can't wait to meet their friends and make new ones. I support Charter schools and school choice in general because they help give children, underserved and underprivileged children, more choices and a better education. Thank you to the Board of Trustees for voting to support OCCA.</p>
7/23/2020 18:42:25	Jeffrey Patterson	No	support for OCCA school		<p>I have 2 daughters and my 5 school age grandkids who live in Orange. We have always valued private education by giving us a choice of curriculum and more learning options. OCCA is vitally important for the development of my young grandkids, second only to the environment created at home &amp; their church. OCCA provides that positive learning experience to help mold the future generation. Thank you to the Board of Trustees for supporting OCCA.</p>
7/23/2020 18:42:43	Laura Hernandez	Yes	Mi nombre es Laura, y esta carta es para darles a saber mi descontento con el sindicato de maestros. Ellos no deben dar una falsa retórica de "igualdad" cuando obligan a los niños de bajos recursos económicos a ingresar a los sistemas escolares que atacan las creencias culturales de sus familias. ¿Por qué solo los RICOS tienen una forma de escapar de esta propaganda política monopolizada y el abuso de la educación pública? Mas aparte la unica voz que tenemos que nos apoya es la de la sra Brenda y quiero pedirle que paren de tener tanto ataque contra ella. LLa que ustedes quieren el respeto y debería de ser reciproco a todos. pongan orden en las juntas y paren los ataques de el sindicato de maestros.. attentamente, laura	Oppose Issue	No

7/23/2020 18:43:20	David Chung	Yes	7G- reimagine the school plan	Support Issue	<p>Greetings Dr Hansen, President Ortega and board of education, My son has spent the last 6 years as a student at Fletcher. I would like to speak with you about the curriculum that has been suggested to school districts under Black Lives Matter. I do not know if Orange Unified is considering this curriculum, but many districts are being pressured to adopt it. Of course we want our children to respect one another and appreciate diversity. However, the curriculum is not just about this. It has coloring pages that indoctrinate children that gender is a choice of many different genders. I am giving you some of the coloring pages and will email each of you the schemata of the ideology the curriculum presents. The coloring page says.. Everybody has the right to CHOOSE their own gender, by listening to their heart and mind. Everyone gets to CHOOSE if they are a girl or a boy or both or neither or something else, and NO ONE else gets to CHOOSE for them. Did you notice that they used the word "CHOOSE" three times? So much for it being "inborn". Putting this type of pressure to "choose a gender" on developing children is child abuse, especially when the teachers union recently passed a policy that puberty blockers and hormone therapy can be given WITHOUT parent permission! When CTA passes a policy that means they will be working on legislation very soon. If these ideas get taught in school, there will be a huge exodus out of public schools. They are calling all these gender choices SCIENCE, but people with common sense call it CRAZY! They will create a mental health crisis with these type of teachings. The CTA endorses this curriculum. Is this really what TEACHERS in OUSD want? Does their union really represent their views and values? If so, teachers might find themselves without a job. It's hard to teach students when parents won't send their kids to school anymore.</p>
7/23/2020 18:43:30	John Ausmus	Yes	Public Comment		<p>Greetings President Ortega and Orange Unified Board Members, Someone sent me a copy of OUEA's Facebook page and I was really shocked at the teachers' responses to Trustee Lebsack's insightful and witty satire. The teachers' comments were hateful and undeserved. Are these the same teachers that advocate for "safe school climates" and "anti-bullying"? If so, they are the biggest offenders and quite hypocritical. I truly believe that these distasteful comments were from a small minority of teachers in Orange Unified. We all know that more is caught than taught and I am VERY CONCERNED about the role models these educators are for students. If a student wrote a satire that a teacher did not agree with, is this how they would treat a student in their class? Or if a student was being harassed by other students for having a different perspective, would they turn a blind eye and allow it? This satire was not offensive. It made a point using humor. Maybe it struck a nerve because sometimes truth can offend. I believe we need to act like adults and realize that everyone has a right to their view point. Trustee Lebsack was elected in 2016 because her viewpoint is shared by MANY people, so when you demean her, remember you are demeaning MANY people and families in this community who have like views.</p>
7/23/2020 18:45:21	Kim Clark	Yes		Support Issue	We support the new charter school and are excited to have this opportunity for our children to learn through classical education. .
7/23/2020 18:45:54	Selene Quintana	Yes		Support Issue	Para quien coresponda,
7/23/2020 18:46:50	Chris Palicke	No	Agenda C - OUEA needs to shift their focus to what is best for the students and community and not just what is best for teachers when negotiating the re-opening of schools		<p>estoy muy molesta el sindicato de maestros de donde llevo a mi hija lla que e visto mucho bullying asia la persona que apolla a nosotros y a nuestros hijos. Porf. avor respeten a la Sra Brenda ya que ella fue elegida para representarnos y su sindicato nos quiere callar y tener control de todo. Yo agradezco a la Brenda por ser nuestra voz. la vos de los padres.</p> <p>Dear President Ortega and members of the board,</p> <p>As you discuss the reopening of schools today, I hope you will be influenced by facts and not by union pressures. I am a small business owner and my family has suffered greatly financially due to COVID-19. When I learned that the Teachers Union passed a bill that did not allow any teacher layoffs during this time, I was in shock. It's not that I don't appreciate teachers, it's just that, schools will probably decrease in enrollment due to all these changes. When the rest of the world has to deal with loss, the teachers' union chooses greed rather than sacrifice? What happened to, "WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER?" Teacher unions won't even entertain the idea of pay cuts during this time of global economic famine. Why do government workers get a free ticket? Teachers are supposed to serve the people, not the other way around. Then the state mandates that ADA money will not reflect current attendance, but instead will reflect last year's attendance. We all know that money is based on attendance. What other business operates this way? NONE! Can a restaurant say, all workers will continue to get paid the same with no layoffs, even if the customers decrease immensely? NO! Why? Because it is financially unrealistic and unsustainable. However, when you are part of a union that brings in \$195 million dollars a year, that money buys a lot of political influence in Sacramento. That is why LA Unified teachers can refuse to teach while making demands such as defunding the police, placing a moratorium on charter schools, wanting Medicare for all, and requiring a millionaire tax. Power CORRUPTS, and it's obvious the teachers union cares more about political agendas than kids. Teachers need to wake up! Stop giving your \$1000 dollar annual dues to this political monstrosity. There are other options, the unions are hurting our economy with unreasonable demands and hurting education with their insatiable greed.</p>
7/23/2020 18:47:25	Janet Chang	Yes	Agenda C - OUEA needs to make sure they are considering what's best for the students and not just their political views.	Support Issue	<p>Good evening Orange Unified Staff and board,</p> <p>I am a parent who has a child enrolled to start school this fall with Orange unified school district. I would like to address the OUEA teachers and their unprofessional conduct on facebook. Ms Lebsack expressed a view. We live in America where free speech is allowed. She addressed the ideology of the union, she never attacked people, the way some OUEA teachers attacked her. She is trying to show teachers the union's hypocrisy. She does this with her YouTube Channel and her articles. She is not against teachers, because she is a teacher. She's been in her profession for 25 years and has taught every grade level, general ed, special ed, academic subjects and PE. She's coached sports and has been a Peace Officer for the Orange County Probation Department. She serves her constituents, including teachers, by informing them with facts. Sometimes these facts are hard to hear, but they are true and verified. One fact teachers should know is that their union took away their rights by passing a trailer bill AB119. It says that an Employing school district MUST give teachers' personal information to the teachers' union, such as their cell number, address and personal email address, WITHOUT the teachers' notification or consent. This is an absolute breach of privacy, but the union was for it.</p> <p>The union passed another bill that diminished teacher rights with SB 866. This bill forbids school districts to inform teachers of their right to join or not join the union. Coincidentally this law was signed by Gov Brown on the exact day Janus won the Supreme Court Case (which gave teachers this choice). Preventing employers to tell employees their rights by passing a law to forbid it, is deceptive and not in the best interest of the employee. It is self serving for the unions and a strong arm tactic. Who is serving who?</p>

7/23/2020 18:48:11	Amanda Eacker	Yes		Support Issue	As a resident of Orange I am beyond excited that there is a new charter option for our children. There is not a "one shoe fits all" for education and by giving our community a choice we are allowing different environments and opportunities for our students to learn in. As a community we should be supporting each other's ability for choice. If we aren't given the ability to have a choice in our children's education that may line up with different family's ideals and virtues then what type of community have we become? We need to not be looking at this as a POLITICAL argument but more so at how positively charter schools can benefit our future generation. It provides another place for students to attend with high standards and resources. I couldn't be more proud to be apart of the City of Orange that allows something as unique and positive to be included in our community. I thank the OCCA board for the hard work they've put in, especially during the pandemic.
7/23/2020 18:48:46	Darren Clark	Yes		Support Issue	I support occa and the opportunity that it brings to Orange County. And I thank all the Board members who supported and voted for occa. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children. We appreciate as parents the ability to choose where We want our children to attend school. Thank you!
7/23/2020 18:51:34	Maribel De La Cruz	Yes		N/A	Hola soy Maribel De la Cruz,  Les agradezco su tiempo y me gustaria decirles que el sindicato de maestros es una mafia que esta acabando con el bienestar de nuestros hijos y familias al igual de muchas personas que trabajan para el distrito y no estan deacuerdo como piensan y quieren que nuestros hijos piensen. NO estoy de acuerdo en que enseñen a mi hija educacion transgenero, o que la confundan. estoy muy preocupada por que estan manipulando las mentes de mi hija. Yo soy una persona que esta muy serca a mi religion y estoy apoyando y ensenando a mi hija menor a mis creencias y ustedes estan pudriendo la inocencia de nuestros hijos. la union deberia defender a nuestros hijos, esnenarlos a leer bien lla que muchos estan bajo el nivel academico en todo. embes de estar atacando a la sra guera que nos apoya a nosotros. paren de estar peleando y ensenensen a respetar a nosotros los padres, a nuestros hijos y a todos los que no creen en sus valores. me da gusto que tengan opciones de charter school y asi ustedes como mesa directiva muchos se openian, le doy gracias a los que votaron para que abrieran la escuela charter para darnos opciones.. tambien omito mi direccion por que lla conosco como son de mal con tonos los que se oponen a su sindicato. agan por los ninos y agan su trabajo.  sr. ledesma gracias por su apoyo a los padres y a nuestros hijos. le doy las gracias a sra. brenda por igual
7/23/2020 18:52:15	Jeanette Saldivar	Yes		N/A	Dear Board members  want to let you know that as a parent of a 3rd grader I am very concerned of what is going on in your district. first of all on social media the teachers union is blasting mrs. Lesback and it makes me wonder if those same teachers that teach our children and promote kindness are the ones that constantly attack Mrs. Lesback because she is not a voice of the unions but of us Parents, Students and voters. The teachers union and those who represent the classified employees should be ashamed of what you're doing not only are you teaching our kids to be bullies but your forcing an agenda in our kids that has nothing to do with education. i am very upset that your district is implementing LGBT and transgender BS when you should be teaching our kids how to read, write, math and why not teach them how to make money. do that instead of being bullies. NOT ALL teachers think like the way the union representatives think but unfortunately, they need to go along with your bs because if not the unions retaliate against them as well. Let Brenda be the voice of the parents as we chose all of you to represent us and stop KA to the teachers union. we parents are so tiered of your BS that are very happy that we now have another option in our district that of the charter school. perhaps many of us will decide in home schooling since we don't agree that politicizing our children. One other thing. I do not agree in BLM since I believe en equality and I am very conservative. showing our kids to respect or our ideologies is our job not yours so stay out of it.  Want to take the time to thank Board Member Lesback for being our voice and I can assure you that I along with other parents are upset of what the teachers union is doing to you and we too will fight for our voice, for your voice and that of our childrens voice.  Jeanette O Saldivar parent and advocate of children
7/23/2020 18:53:21	Leandra Blades	No	C	Support Issue	Hello to Orange Unified Cabinet and Trustees, I am here to ask the question, why is Trustee Lesback being attacked so viciously by union members? She is a teacher herself and has been a union member for nearly 25 years. She left her union for good reason and nun has been transparent about this. She left because the CTA passed a policy in January 2020 that children can get hormone therapy or puberty blockers WITHOUT parent permission. In fact, the union called parents an "unnecessary barrier". If this is not offensive to parents, I don't know what is! She left the union because the union is taking away parent rights. Teachers are parents too. Why would teachers want to take away parents' God-given rights? She left the union because she did not agree with the laws they were endorsing. In 2017 the CTA endorsed a law that says to INTENTIONALLY infect someone with HIV is NO longer a felony. Is this what teachers want? Or do they even know this is what their union is doing with their union dues? Are your salary perks worth turning a blind eye to these claims that lack common sense and that will ultimately harm families, children and the community? How is Defunding the police going to make our communities safer? Teachers need to WAKE UP and get out of this corrupt system because they are ruining your noble reputation as teachers.
7/23/2020 18:53:27	Moesha Turner	Yes	6	N/A	Hi, I am excited to learn of OCCA orange County classical academy. My children need education like this and I am grateful for this option. I would never dream my children could be offered a true classical education and be supported by a wonderful OUSD Board that puts my children's choice first. Thank you Board. I always wondered about school board politics but this support for OCCA shows me you all are the real deal. Thank you for supporting OCCA for our children.

7/23/2020 18:54:11	Amanda Eacker	Yes	OCCA		As a resident of Orange I am beyond excited that there is a new charter option for our children. There is not a "one shoe fits all" for education and by giving our community a choice we are allowing different environments and opportunities for our students to learn in. As a community we should be supporting each other's ability for choice. If we aren't given the ability to have a choice in our children's education that may line up with different family's ideals and virtues then what type of community have we become? We need to not be looking at this as a POLITICAL argument but more so at how positively charter schools can benefit our future generation. It provides another place for students to attend with high standards and resources. I couldn't be more proud to be apart of the City of Orange that allows something as unique and positive to be included in our community. I thank the OCCA board for the hard work they've put in, especially during the pandemic.
7/23/2020 18:55:09	Spencer Pollack	Yes		N/A	In the future, can these virtual board meetings be amended to allow for dialogue via zoom?
7/23/2020 18:55:22	Holly Schafer	Yes	Non-Agenda : Improving Student/Counselor Support Issue ratio at CVMS		My name is Holly Schafer and I had spoke at the Board meeting in March, regarding the necessity of improving the student/counselor ratio at CVMS. Especially with the unprecedented times and school challenges that Covid 19 has brought to the community, it is even now more than ever, important to increase counselors at CVMS. During the last three months of school, our students at Orange Unified School District had many more extra stressors brought on by the isolation and online learning due to Covid 19. Luckily I had the resources for my 8th grade twins, but not all families are as lucky. I also had to console them three weeks ago, when a CVMS student tragically committed suicide. The incoming seventh graders in August will be coming to CVMS with even more stressors then just starting Junior High. As a front line worker, and seeing first hand what adults and children have been going through during this pandemic, I urge the Orange USD board to make sure more counselors are added to the 2020-2021 school year, in addition to arranging Covid 19 adjustments (wearing masks, social distancing, hand sanitizer stations, etc). Thank You for your time.
7/23/2020 18:55:42	Amy Dam	No	Public comment	N/A	I am very excited my children will be attending Orange County Classical Academy! The school's mission to develop students in both mind and character and emphasizing independence and virtue is what I am looking for in a school. OCCA means a lot to my kids. They can't wait to meet their friends and make new ones. I support Charter schools and school choice in general because they help give children, underserved and underprivileged children, more choices and a better education. Thank you to the Board of Trustees for voting to support OCCA.
7/23/2020 18:57:15	Jennifer Pak	Yes		N/A	I am sending my son to OCCA.. We are very fortunate to have OCCA that my son can learn value through quality education. School, parents, and students become one team and we can make big big difference in their education. I am glad we can have it as public charter school level. I am so happy since Good education is not only for people who can afford private school tuitions. Thank you for your support OCCA.
7/23/2020 18:57:51	Joel Saldivar	Yes	Public comments		Hello to Orange Unified Cabinet and Trustees, I am here to ask the question, why is Trustee Lebsack being attacked so viciously by union members? She is a teacher herself and has been a union member for nearly 25 years. She left her union for good reason and she has been transparent about this. She left because the CTA passed a policy in January 2020 that children can get hormone therapy or puberty blockers WITHOUT parent permission. In fact, the union called parents an "unnecessary barrier". If this is not offensive to parents, I don't know what is! She left the union because the union is taking away parent rights. Teachers are parents too. Why would teachers want to take away parents' God-given rights? She left the union because she did not agree with the laws they were endorsing. In 2017 the CTA endorsed a law that says to INTENTIONALLY infect someone with HIV is NO longer a felony. Is this what teachers want? Or do they even know this is what their union is doing with their union dues? Are your salary perks worth turning a blind eye to these claims that lack common sense and that will ultimately harm families, children and the community? How is Defunding the police going to make our communities safer? Teachers need to WAKE UP and get out of this corrupt system because they are ruining your noble reputation as teachers.
7/23/2020 18:58:36	Rose Felix	Yes		N/A	I just want to tell the teachers union that I am very concern the attitude of your unios and worried for my grandchildren. Please stop the Healy ACT or whatever it is that promotes sexuality or corrupts our grandchildren's minds. show them what there there for and dont bring any political or social agenda to the schools.
7/23/2020 18:59:59	Jane Wang	Yes	Public Comment		rosa Good Evening Board Members and Cabinet, I am a parent and I would like to know why Trustee Lebsack was attacked so ruthlessly and unprofessionally on OUEA's facebook page. What I read from some of OUEA's educators literally disgusted me. I do not understand why her satire was so offensive. Although it was meant for humor, it was not hateful toward people. It was poking fun at an ideology that CTA is promoting. An ideology of identity politics that many parents find ridiculous. Parents do not want their kids to be judged in school by the color of their skin, their gender, sexual orientation or religion, yet the CTA says these are categories of privilege or oppression. Will white children be shamed and guilty for the color of their skin? Yes, we need to stand for injustices, such as police brutality, but everything has gone too far. The satire brilliantly demonstrated that if teachers REALLY believe these categories of privilege and oppression then their pocketbooks should match their convictions. If you felt it was hateful because she alluded to the ability for sexual orientations or gender identities to change, well this was not her idea. The idea is from CTA. They say gender and sexual orientations can be fluid. Fluid means changeable or fluctuating. If you felt it was hateful because she alluded to ethnicity being based on perception, well this was not her idea either. The idea is from the Calif School Board Policy, (5145.3a). Read it for yourself. If you felt it was hateful because she said the Q in LGBTQ stands for Queer or Questioning, well that wasn't her idea either. It is stated in the curriculum and laws. Her points are valid, and once you think more rationally about these emotionally charged claims of identity politics, the whole idea becomes a house of cards. If teachers in OUEA truly believe in tolerance and respect, then they need to practice what they preach.