

AUGUST 26, 2020 Regular Board Meeting
Public Comment Items appear in Order Received by Area.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

No comments received for the Consent Agenda.

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Elva Carlos

August 20, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Elva Carlos and I am the Campus Culture Director at Cambridge High School. I have been teaching at Cambridge for the past 12 years. I have had the pleasure of knowing two amazing School Resource Officers (SROs) at my site and have appreciated their positive support and connection they have had and still have with our students.

During my years at Cambridge, our SROs have supported our students in a positive way. For example, they do not go into classrooms arresting or looking to arrest students. In fact, they have regular conversations with our students. They say hello, ask how they are doing, give high fives, laugh, and most importantly, help with any event or activity I need adult volunteers. When we have school carnivals, they are not only there supervising, but buying food for our students or playing games. Every year, they help either assemble or deliver, in their own personal cars, our annual food baskets during the holidays. They also participate in our lunchtime activities and rally games, which our students love. When our SROs find out the unfortunate living situations some of our students are facing, they are the first to inform our site so our school can provide the appropriate services our students need. They truly care for the well-being of our students.

Each year, the Chief of Police has quarterly student meetings in our district. Small groups of high school students from each site **(250-word limit reached)**

2. Pete Pulos

August 24, 2020

Trustee Davis,

As a champion of the Sunnyside Region and Alternative education, I am reaching out as you have a pulse for what is happening at our schools. After the lapse of the School Neighborhood Resource Officer contract, I am compelled to share my concern about the potential non-renewal of our district's School Resource Officer (SRO) contract.

As the principal of Cambridge High School, I have been afforded the unique perspective of 16 years as a High School administrator at four of our district's high schools. Anyone or any organization who believes that our districts SRO's are simply on school sites to enforce the law and make arrests are grossly misinformed. During my 16 years, I have observed many students graduate from Fresno Unified School District with a more positive outlook on life because of the relationship established with our SRO's.

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I have had the privilege to witness the impact of our district's SRO's in multiple ways. Below are a few of my observations during my career:

1. Students and families building trust with SRO' as SRO's connect families to resources both at school and in the community.
2. At times, students will experience traumatic experiences that do not immediately get reported because they will not report to anyone but the SRO. For example, a Cambridge student and her mother did not report an incident of abuse until after winter break because mother and student only had trust in our SRO.
3. SRO's routinely volunteer their time to support campus **(250-word limit reached)**

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-14, PRESENT and DISCUSS Strategic Initiatives to Connect Students, Parents and Families During the 2020/21 School Year

No comments received for this Agenda Item.