

Subject: Comment for May 1 Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 6:32:27 AM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Steve Kennedy

To: Information SMCOE

CC: Durani Marisol, rabrica@cityofepa.org, Gina Quiney, Craig Dremann

Dear Members of the Board,

I do not pretend to tell you what to teach kids. I am the childless son of two school teachers. I was raised in Millbrae and attended local public schools. I do not have a teaching credential.

The County Board of Supervisors and their appointees to the Parks Commission will not tell you what to teach either, despite the funding they have to green light the creation of educational videos for your sustainability curriculum.

The home insurance industry will not tell you what to teach, although their inability to influence land management policy is largely to blame for this crisis.

I will tell you this. I pity entry level school teachers, low paid staff and families trying to raise children in this county because the cost of living has just gone up in a big way.

My family here in La Honda, CA has just lost our fire insurance. If we can find insurance we will get half the coverage for twice the cost and we won't dare to file a claim for less than \$10,000 in damages on our new policy because we'll get cancelled again and the claim will be a permanent black mark on the property.

An entry level home in La Honda is a bargain at \$700,000. Rents for studio ADU's start at \$3,000 a month. We have simply put housing costs out of reach for teachers, staff and people struggling to raise children in this community. For many of our neighbors, the increase in fire insurance rates will be the last straw.

I want SMCOE on my team. I want the County Supervisors, PG&E and the Community Foundation's most free thinking donors on my team.

I want your input on a video script designed to encourage kids to get into the training and education pipeline for the jobs of tomorrow that will help us prepare for, prevent and mitigate these devastating suburban forest fires.

This video project, submitted as a complete video production proposal, has been sitting on the Park Director's desk since February of 2023. Nick Calderon must believe that San Mateo County can dodge the firestorm bullet forever.

District III County Supervisor Ray Mueller has demanded that I get the support of SMCOE before he moves to support this video project.

He threatens to tell people that I'm asking the County for \$10,000. The fact is that I don't need

money from any outside source. I'm trying to build a team and keep schools open.

My mother died in late January and we're selling a 5 bedroom house in Millbrae (16 Claremont Ct) for about \$2.3 million. Please look it up on Redfin.

I don't need County money from the propagation fund to make this video. I want your input to make this video up to your standards for curriculum for use in grades 5 and 6.

Please watch our "3 minute movie trailer" at

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Please comment on the "Elementary School version" of the script.

Please create an agenda item under "New Business" and consider writing a "letter of interest" in support of the STUDENT version of "The Cannonball Express".

I look forward to watching your discussion of this issue. Please don't hesitate to call me. Please be discrete when forwarding the most sensitive and personal information in this message. I've already been targeted by scammers.

Sincerely,

Steve Kennedy
Executive Producer
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Sent from my iPhone