

Board Meeting 3/24/2022

This survey will be turned off at 3:00pm 3/24/2022, no late entries will be accepted.

Name:

Chauntel Oseguera

Address/Affiliation:

SSFHS teacher

Is this for Open Session or Closed Session?

Open Session

Closed Session

What is the agenda item(s) you would like to discuss?(To comment during the meeting, you must first register to gain access to the meeting.)

A-G Completion Improvement Grant Plan

Do you want to provide your comment when the agenda item comes up or during the public comment section?(To comment during the meeting please provide your Name above)

- When agenda item comes up
- During the public comment section

Comments:

In reviewing the grant draft I noticed that the district plans to add sections (4) to help students retake courses for which they failed. This number is not adequate or suitable for what the data suggests. Currently, at SSFHS we have 131 students that have failed Algebra 1 in the fall. Due to that failure, these students will not move on to Chemistry and therefore will be unable to take a science next year, thereby not making them a-g qualified. Given the new 3 year math requirement, the 69 9th grade students who failed algebra in the fall will not be able to move on to Geometry as they will need to take Algebra next year, as the majority of students will not be able to attend summer school (historically, each site as only been allotted about 15 spots in the Algebra 1 section), These students will then be expected to pass Geometry and Algebra 2 (or equivalent) the first time or they will not be eligible for graduation. I understand the push for A-G and I feel as a faculty we support the initiative, but our students are not ready. Increasingly we have seen that our incoming 9th graders have not mastered the basic math skills to be successful in Algebra 1. Please use some of this grant money to support our students in finding success in math at the high school level. If they do not have success in Algebra, they can not pursue higher level math and science courses. Additionally, this plan asserts that the district will ask site administrators to find teachers willing to take on 120% as this is more cost efficient then opening a full time fte. I would like to caution you against this assumption. Teachers are burnt out, and I would implore you not to make the assumption that you will find willing and capable teachers to assume these roles. In referencing the failure data, we also had 70 students fail Biology, 49 students English 1, 36 students English 2, 33 students Geometry, 71 students PE, 81 students Modern World History and 32 students failed US History. Of these students 54% fall into our special populations of either SPED or EL. Teachers have been accountable for these students, we have done root causes analysis and cycles of inquiry, we have brainstormed and implemented all the tiers of intervention, but we need to make systemic change before we see results.

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Name:

Nathan Clark

Address/Affiliation:

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Nathan Clark

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Comments:

Thank you board members and South San Francisco Community members. I hope you are well. My name is Nathan Clark. I'm here representing CALPIRG, a member-based advocacy organization that works to protect public health, consumer rights, and our environment. I've reached out to some of you via email, and I wanted to formally introduce myself in this setting as well.

I'm here today to talk to you about one of our priority campaigns, a statewide effort to expedite the transition to all-electric school buses.

Why electric school buses? Well, students deserve a safe ride to school, yet diesel exhaust is a known carcinogen that causes numerous health problems, including lung cancer, asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia. This is especially harmful to kids, who have developing lungs. The transportation sector is not only the largest contributor to air pollution, but also to greenhouse gasses in CA, and is making the climate crisis even worse.

The solution is electric school buses. Not only do electric school buses result in better air quality and fewer greenhouse gasses, they also have been shown to be cheaper to maintain over the lifetime of the bus, due to fewer parts and fuel costs.

This is also an incredible time to be investing in electric buses: There's grant opportunities from the CEC and CARB, the recently passed bipartisan infrastructure law, and (most recently) Governor Newsom's proposed budget, which would add 1.5 billion to support school transportation systems, electrification, and charging infrastructure.

And these buses are ready to roll: Several schools have taken advantage of this unique moment to invest heavily in electric school buses, including Twin rivers, which boasts the largest electric bus fleet in N. America, and districts like LAUSD which have committed to 100% electric fleets.

I think South San Francisco Unified School District could be a leader and champion on this issue, and I'd love to discuss that possibility with you in the future. Making this transition is an incredible opportunity to benefit the air we breathe, the planet we all live on, and, of course, the kids who deserve a safe and clean future.

Thank you.

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