

# Board Meeting 7/15/2021

This survey will be turned off at 3:00pm 7/15/2021, no late entries will be accepted.

Name:

SSF parent (prefer to remain anonymous so that officers do not harass my children)

Address/Affiliation:

South San Francisco Resident

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.)

MOU SSFPD and SSFUSD

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:

Good Evening Board of Trustees,

I am asking that the Board of Trustees discontinue the School Liaison Officer (SLO) program at SSFUSD. I have been patiently listening to the meeting in the past year and have been disappointed and frustrated with this long strung out process of delaying this needed change. The students, many months ago, presented convincing factual and peer reviewed research that demonstrates the ineffectiveness and harm of officers interactions with students. I even read the notes and recommendations that the students gave to the board only to have it barely acknowledged and mentioned in the following meeting. I later find out at the city meeting with the board that despite student feedback and community comments in the months prior, the board allowed white men with six digit salaries to co-author the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by simply copying and pasting sections from surrounding districts. This is an insult to the students who dedicated hours researching and presenting and commenting, only to have non-people of color to dictate the terms in which police can come to the school campuses. It is also important to mention that one of the authors of the MOU was the chief. This a conflict on interest in that he, like many other chiefs, in other cities are likely to act in the interest of securing overtime pay and huge salaries for their department. This program benefits the officers' salaries while harming the students since these officers lack adequate training when interacting with students. The police dept already eats up so much of the city's budget and no extra and unnecessary funds should go to them. This is similar to nearly every city and in the last year many citizens are recognizing the need to transform education, starting with removing officers from campus.

The SLO program should be discontinued in the next year and the years to follow in addition to the reasons mentioned above and also the fact that there is no final MOU.

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Name:

Kimberly Hui

Address/Affiliation:

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ADMINISTRATION a. SSFUSD and the City of SSF PD MOU

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#### Comments:

SUSPEND the SLO program. The job of a police officer is punitive, their role is to conduct criminal investigations, their presence in SSFUSD criminalizes youth and pushes them into the school to prison pipeline. The police do not receive proper training to work with children, why are they allowed to be on campus? The current draft requires that SSFUSD pay for all of the trainings that the chief ultimately determines as necessary training. The draft MOU does not require police to immediately inform parents/guardians in the event they are going to arrest a student. We should not be using funds to train police, when it could be used to hire more counselors and an actual school nurse to provide care for our students.

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Name:

.....

Address/Affiliation:

ssfhs student

.....

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#### Comments:

I am writing to demand the discontinuation of the SLO program. The board has spent almost a whole year ignoring student and community concerns. Student presentations have brought up factual evidence and lived experiences that prove cops on campus are harmful for a school environment and perpetuate the school to prison pipeline. School safety should not be reliant upon a system that has historically endangered POC and mentally ill individuals.

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Address/Affiliation:

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#### Comments:

Hello what is the status on vaccinations for all employees and students? Isn't the vaccine the best protection for each individual and for the community the district serves? How are we supposed to know if a site is safe? We have immunization records for TB, measles, etc. How is this any different? Hospitals, federal, state, city workers, police, fire, corporations, and many other school districts are implementing vaccinations. When will SSFUSD follow suit? Can we trust someone who "says" their vaccinated when they're really not? Just because they don't feel like wearing a mask, potentially being a danger to everyone around them? When will this subject be included in the agenda? Will the district website be updated regarding this very important issue regarding public health and safety? Will all families be contacted before the school year starts?

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# Board Meeting 7/15/2021

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Name:

Yedida Kanfer

Address/Affiliation:

Volunteer, ACLU- North Peninsula chapter

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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.)

Suspending the SLO program

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)

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#### Comments:

I support the removal of the SLO programs from SSFUSD. Various studies show that police do not make schools safer, especially not for working-class children of color, queer students, and/or students with disabilities. During the 2017-18 school year, students with disabilities in District schools were referred to law enforcement at a rate one-and-a-half times their rate of enrollment. This is easy for me to imagine: as someone who uses various supporting devices and tools, I have been singled out and treated differently-- even by people with good intentions. Students do not need staff who are trained in combat and arresting people. They need professionals who are empathetic, can deescalate effectively, and ensure students are growing both emotionally and academically.

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# Board Meeting 7/15/2021

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Name:

Aristel de la Cruz

Address/Affiliation:

Teacher

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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.)

SSFPD and SSFUSD MOU

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### Comments:

Greetings Board of Trustees,

I am emailing in support of no longer having the SLO (School Liaison Officer) program at SSFUSD. While I recognize there are rare instances in which officers are needed to come to the school. We have to acknowledge the ineffectiveness of the American prison system. Issues around mental health, addiction, and poverty are not solved with incarceration. This is factual and has been expressed in prior board and city council meetings. These issues need to be addressed by trained professionals. From those meetings that I have been able to attend, I have yet to hear any strong argument based on data and research that demonstrates the benefits of an SLO program. The students and community members even sent in sources, data, and even presented research which I also double checked that confirms the harm and ineffectiveness of officers interacting with students. Despite this, the board has yet to make any definitive move on this issue. In fact, the current MOU draft entertains the idea of having the district pay for the trainings of the officers. This is concerning given the challenges of balancing a school budget. With students returning from a hard school year, it is essential that teachers and youth workers maximize their time with the students in building a safe and nurturing environment for growth. School time is better used in this manner than allowing the police department in take up that time. Their training does not show that they are equipped to effectively teach students in the same way that a teachers' training shows that they are not equipped to make arrests and investigate crime. Lastly, I support the use of non-police alternatives in addressing the root causes that push students into committing crime or abusing substances.

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Name:

student

Address/Affiliation:

ssfhs

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cops off campus NOW

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)

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### Comments:

i can't believe we've been asking for cops off campus for almost a year now, and there's still no sign of the board listening to us. how dense do you have to be for students to hand you research, provide community input, and show up with statistics, data, and personal experiences month after month, only to ignore them and provide your own personal biases on the matter? your job as public servants is to listen to the public and grant them help with their demands. students have no political power. we can't vote or force you to change anything. all we have is our voices, yet you guys can't (or more like, choose not to) even hear us over the loudness of your own privilege. bringing cops onto school campuses recreates the same kind of racial, class, and social inequities that we see on our streets. more and more school districts are becoming aware that removing cops from campuses is a step in the right direction towards creating safe and equitable learning environments for our students. by removing cops, we'd be prioritizing the safety of our most vulnerable students, including our brown, black, indigenous, queer, trans, non-english speaking, disabled, undocumented, and poor kids--the #diversity your twitter account loves to brag about. the amount of money the city spends on cops each year could be used to give us more important resources like better food, accessible counseling, and maybe even some nurses?! we could further fund our beloved sports programs, like color guard, get better art supplies, and finally give folklorico, the pride and joy of this school, their own dance studio. we'd be able to build up our community and prevent unsafe behavior before it even starts. for a bunch of people with degrees who share nothing in common with the student body they oversee, it's about time you got your priorities straight. stop flaunting #diversity and #believe on your twitter when you don't really value the #diversity of your students and #believe their experiences.

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Name:

Russell

Address/Affiliation:

SSFUSD Alumni

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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.)

SLO Program

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### Comments:

Hi,

This past year, students, alumni, and members of the wider SSFUSD community have vocalized their opposition to the SLO program ever since this issue was reawakened last summer. There were students who were placed in focus groups, and a majority of them were opposed to the idea of police on their campus. A group of brave diligent students gave a presentation to the board on their findings for the police's harmful role in schools as well as answering many of the "what if scenarios" for ending the SLO program people often ask. Yet their presentation only merited soft congratulations and then an hour long discussion amongst the board. There is no data supporting that children want police in their schools. The thought exchange forum, which underrepresented both Latinx community members and student input, was propped up as a data sample that claimed the community leaned on supporting SLO's but then was quickly re-labeled as a "point of reference" when criticisms of the scientific efficacy of the data were raised by commenters at the meeting. SSFUSD students, alumni and community members have marched, researched data on the school to prison pipeline, and expressed their negative police experiences through focus groups, public comment and social media, all to help the board imagine a school district without a program that did not exist a little over 20 years ago.

School districts throughout the bay area, from San Jose up to San Francisco, have ended their police in schools programs. Students in SSFUSD deserve the same. I highly encourage the board to suspend and then end the Student Liaison Officer program.

Thank you for your time.

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Name:

Emma Gutierrez

Address/Affiliation:

SSF Resident

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End SLO Program

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#### Comments:

My name is Emma and I'm a resident of SSF. I am deeply concerned about the SLO programs being present in our schools. I want to emphasize the need to end this program as it is not effective and does not allow our students to feel safe in the classroom, negatively impacting their ability to learn and progress in their education journey. There are more effective measures SSFUSD can take to ensure campus safety BUT SLO programs are not one of those solutions. Thank you!

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Ladislao Rodriguez

Address/Affiliation:

SSF Resident

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End SLO Program

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### Comments:

I am Ladislao Rodriguez and I am a community member of South San Francisco and I am writing in support of ending the SLO program and not entering an MOU. Research shows that police presence in schools does not benefit our children, South City student's have consistently demanded the end of the program. Not only have the ACLU Northern California chapter sponsored this message, but also the Fresh Lifeline for Youth community organization. I myself attended schools without a police presence and we were perfectly fine with cops off of our campuses, I would like to imagine a future for South San Francisco youth to feel safe with Police off their campuses.

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Nayeli Rodriguez

Address/Affiliation:

SSF Resident

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End SLO Program

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#### Comments:

My name is Nayeli Rodriguez and I am a community member in SSF. I have gone to schools all my life where no cops have been present and this has positively impacted my school and learning experience. Cops are unnecessary in schools. Cops do not make students feel safe, but they make them feel scared. I want kids in my city to have the privilege of going to school where cops are not there. I want kids in my city to not live in that fear.

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Name:

Cesar Rodriguez

Address/Affiliation:

SSF Resident & SSFUSD Alumnus

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End the SLO Program in SSFUSD

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### Comments:

#### Public Comment

Do not enter the MOU with SSFPD, and end the SLO program.

The SLO Program should be ended because:

- It is unnecessary for safety. People assume police stop school shootings, but they end before police respond, and when cops have been on campus, they did not prevent them. Cops can still respond to campus emergencies without the SLO program, nor an MOU.
  - It is harmful to our school children. Research shows that cops in schools are detrimental to working-class students of color, young women of color, and students with disabilities by resulting in increased contact with police and criminal justice punishment for low level issues
  - SSF students & community members consistently call for the program's end - by submitting public comment for over a year, and students even marched and rallied to end SLOs
  - Legal & juvenile justice leaders joined our community's call to end the program;
  - Much more beneficial alternatives to police in schools exist, from providing cultural, gender, and/or sexuality specific programming, to health and wellness resources.
  - It only benefits SSFPD as a recruitment and public relations tools. SSFPD is the only entity that benefits. They can conduct public relations and recruitment elsewhere, off our campuses and without our school district resources.
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