

Board Meeting 5/23/2024

This survey will be turned off at 3:00pm 5/23/2024, no late entries will be accepted.

Name:

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Address/Affiliation:

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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.)

.....

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:

The district is trying to push their choice for Math Curriculum in the middle schools when the teachers clearly chose not to pursue it. It is very frustrating when teachers are asked their opinion, take the time to give it, then the district says, "They didn't understand it." Even when rejected by the board, the district is pushing their choice for the curriculum.

Also, why is the district getting rid of statistics in high school and advanced math for 6th and 7th grades? That means that if a 6th grader wants to take an advanced math course, they have to be in a group with 8th graders. There is a huge differences in students from 6-8, why is the district making it difficult to accommdate students? This is not equitable! Make it make sense.

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Comments:

Is it true that Statistics will no longer be offered in high school? How is this okay?

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Comments:

Is it true that even after getting public comment, the district is doing away with advanced math in the middle schools?

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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.)

Superintendent evaluation.

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

Comments:

Why are there so many different consultants? For adoption, portrait of a graduate, strategic plan, hiring, etc. Having so many consultants makes the staff lose trust and credibility for the people who are supposed to be in the position of leader, facilitator, curriculum specialist, innovator, etc. How do you evaluate the effectiveness of someone who hires consultants to do their job? How is leadership keeping up with the current practices in education if they're not actively doing it themselves? Is there portrait of a superintendent, director, tosa etc.?

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Name:

Vincent Blensdorf

Address/Affiliation:

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Open Session



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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.)

El Camino ceasing to offer statistics

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:

I don't think statistics should be taken off of el Camino high schools course catalog. When I was a student at el Camino, I took statistics and it helped me in a number different ways going forward while also being one of the most engaging and interactive classes El Camino had to offer. The knowledge I gained through this course gave me sufficient knowledge to impress my statistics professor in college my first year. The statistics course at el Camino high school layed the foundation for my confidence in excel. I'm graduate of San Jose state and I use excel everyday in my current role. I think it would be a mistake to remove the statistics from the courses offered to students because of its unique ability to help students in the short term with passing statistics in college early on and the long term teaching them how to use tools like excel.

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Board Meeting 5/23/2024

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Name:

Zoe Gungon

Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

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.)

Removal of statistics as a class at ECHS

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:

I am a 12th grade student at El Camino High School. I took statistics in 11th grade and AP statistics in 12th grade, both with my teacher Mr. Haffner. I believe statistics should not be removed as a class. It truly benefited myself and the rest of my peers in the way that we could apply statistical concepts to the real world. Additionally, statistics is required for many student's majors, including a very popular major, business administration. Its removal as a class would limit students to calculus or data science, which may not interest students. I firmly believe that I would have struggled and not benefited from taking calculus. This is why I believe we should keep statistics as a class at El Camino High School, thank you.

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.....

Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

.....

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Open Session



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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.)

Removal of Probability and Statistics in ELCO

.....

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:

I believe that Probability and Statistics serve more students than AP Stats. Probability and Statistics teaches students real life skills such as knowing how to calculate probability, make graphs, hypothesis testing, estimation, etc. Although AP Stats also teaches these skills, not all students would want to take an AP class. I believe it is also unfair that Probability and Statistics is no longer considered a math class because it still deals with math used in everyday life. If Probability and Statistics stayed, it can be beneficial for students who want to learn about statistics without needing to commit to an AP course. By removing Probability and Statistics, it is preventing students from learning about these skills, as well as discouraging students from learning them.

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Name:

Karen Kitchen

Address/Affiliation:

El Camino High School

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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.)

Removal of Probability and Statistics from ECHS curriculum

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:

Dear SSFUSD school board,

I understand that a major goal of the high schools is to provide an education that meets the prerequisites of the UC system. However, that should not mean that educational opportunities at the high schools are limited to the classes that fulfill the A-G requirements. Knowledge of probability and statistics is foundational to the process of science itself and is enormously relevant to students' everyday lives, now and in the future. If Probability and Statistics is removed as a class, then a far smaller pool of students will learn these beneficial concepts and skills, and students will be less prepared for their careers and futures. To support the future-readiness of SSFUSD students, you should give all students access to Probability and Statistics classes.

Thank you,

Karen Kitchen

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Name:

Sophia Golingo

Address/Affiliation:

El Camino High school

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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.)

We need regular stats especially for people who already did precalc and aren't looking into an AP Math.

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:

KEEP REGULAR STATS!

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Name:

Madison Woo

Address/Affiliation:

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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.)

Teach Probability and Statistics at El Camino High School

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:

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Name:

Izzy Sanchez

Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

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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.)

ECHS Probability and Statistics class

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:

As someone who took Prob & Stats in my senior year of high school, I think that continuing to offer this class is very beneficial for students moving forward. I'm now in college and I know multiple people who are just now taking statistics for the first time whereas I was able to get that head start in high school. It is an intimidating course to be provided to high schoolers, however considering that there are many students striving to get ahead by taking AP and Honors courses, Prob & Stats is a more easily accessible course for students to do just that. You are encouraging these students to participate in work that will be more applicable to real life by keeping this class and allowing them to prepare themselves for a course that they may need to take when pursuing higher education. There are many different kinds of math, but not all students are suited for one or the other. Having the choice to take Prob & Stats versus Calc encouraged me to actually take a math course in senior year rather than opting out of it entirely, so consider the students who will also have to make this choice.

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Name:

Kianna Le

Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

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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.)

ECHS Probability & Statistics

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:

Probability & Statistics should remain within the ECHS Curriculum. As a previous student of the P&S course at ECHS, I can firmly say that this with this class, it provided and prepared me for class in college. Stats being a class option pushed me to take a math class in general for my fourth year of high school, had the only option been precalc, where I'm not the strongest, I would've opted to just take some other class that wouldn't advance me in other subjects. Two options is good, but the more the better to allow students to expand upon other areas of Mathematical Study, like I heard about Financial Literacy coming into the curriculum, giving students options allows them to be interested instead of being in a class they have to be in. If the only option was to be in Pre-Calc, I'd just skip it all together and miss out on that learning opportunity. Why take away other learning opportunities from students?

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Name:

Christian Cantiller

Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

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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.)

Probs and Stats being taken off

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:

please keep

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math adoption

.....

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:

Dear Board, In the math discussion on May 16, it seems like the district has already decided on IM. They refused to explore another curriculum when it was suggested by multiple teachers. The response from them strongly implied that the board directed them to pilot only ONE curriculum and only IM. Shouldn't there be a comparison between different curricula? What is the point of piloting the same one again (only) when half the adoption team didn't want it? Please clarify. Was it a directive? Thank you.

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Name:

Francheska Bautista

Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

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Name:

Eizeah Rivera Luciano

Address/Affiliation:

El Camino High School

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Comments:

Stats is a great class that I learned a lot in and besides the material you're taught it's one of the only classes at El Camino that really prepares you for college and it keeps students in check by Mr. Haffner's attendance policy and how he runs the tests and homework. His one time tests and his late work policy simulates college classes very well and how life is supposed to be after high school. I encourage this class to stay at El Camino.

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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.)

SSFCTA Bargaining & Class Caps

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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:

Class caps are useful for teachers and students. It will allow more time for students to receive more individualized and differentiated instruction versus larger class sizes. Instructional time periods are consistent, but with a lower class size (smaller divisor) each student will have more time to get the support they need in an equitable and manageable way.

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Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

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Comments:

We have attended several district led pds about equity and if the district is actually serious about achieving equity, making sure all students get what they need to succeed, then class caps are going to be significant. It will allow us teachers to pay more attention to students who need extra help.

Also we need better pay. If you compare the pay in this district to other districts around us, the pay is abysmal.

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Name:

Randall Cordoba

Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

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SSFCTA Bargaining and Class Caps

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:

This year was my first year teaching ceramic arts at El Camino High, and I was lucky to have classes of multiple different sizes for my five periods- it let me see the differences that class sizes make. In a small class, I was able to spend time with students individually, help them with their projects, and build relationships with all of my students. Please understand that I only get about an hour and a half with my classes most days, and with demonstrations, instruction, and cleanup, that leaves less than 2 minutes of individualized instruction with each student in a period of 36 students.

This year I had about 140 students, I had to double up on our in class project storage lockers, in some cases triple. These lockers are about the size of two shoeboxes. New students had to put their projects on shelves used to store class supplies. I have 6 pottery wheels, which means in a class of 36 students it takes 6 class periods just to give everyone a chance to throw on the wheel.

I hope The school board understands that I cannot give students a proper education with such large classes. I don't have the time, or the materials. I've heard that the district doesn't have the money to support class caps, but what's the point if we're not able to teach our students anyways?

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Name:

Naomi Zaragoza

Address/Affiliation:

Ponderosa SLP

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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.)

Class size caps

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:

Large class sizes affect effective teaching and overall student learning. We cannot bring our portrait of a graduate to life if we continue to increase class sizes.

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Name:

Matt Allen

Address/Affiliation:

825 Southwood/Baden High School

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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.)

Contract Negotiations - Public Comment Section

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:

We need to agree on a class size cap to wrap up negotiations for the contract, this year.

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Name:

Ainsley Rosenthal

Address/Affiliation:

Former Student, 127 Manzanita Ave.

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Comments:

My name is Ainsley Rosenthal. I graduated from El Camino in 2019. I wanted to share a few reasons why taking statistics in high school was a valuable experience for me.

Understanding statistics was essential to my college success. It is the only math material I encountered in almost every class I took. Whether it was analyzing data for a sociological research project, or reading a journal article for biology, having a background in statistics gave me the skills to be an active member of the academic community from the moment I started college. I was expected to use the analytical reasoning and data interpretation skills I learned in statistics in nearly every course, even before I had the opportunity to take it in college.

I never used Microsoft Excel before taking statistics at El Camino; Mr. Hafner made learning how to manipulate and present data in Excel an integral part of the course. Excel proficiency is a hugely important skill for college and career success. It is, again, a skill I found you were just expected to have by the time you got to college. The skills I learned while taking statistics in high school have been invaluable to my professional and academic success.

As a UCSB Sociology student, the only math class I was required to take as part of my coursework was statistics. The same is true for most social science majors. Throughout the course, I picked up the material more quickly and performed better than my peers who did not have the opportunity to take the class in high school. I even dug up the formula sheet I created for my stats final at El Camino and used it to study for my college midterm, as it was more helpful than anything provided by my professor. I never even had to open the textbook, as all of the material I needed to review was on that one sheet.

Beyond just being, in my experience, an essential part of college readiness, statistics helps us interpret and understand so much of the information we encounter daily. Whether it's reading an infographic on social media or in a news article, or evaluating evidence as part of a decision-making process, I see learning probability and statistics as as much a life skill as an academic skill. And I think it would be a disservice to students to remove stats from the course offerings.

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Name:

Kevina M. Gallagher-School Psychologist

Address/Affiliation:

Parkway Heights Middle School

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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.)

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

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:

To administrators--Please take this seriously when a staff member shares that they suffer from anxiety. It is not easy to admit for the continued stigma and not to take lightly or made fun of.

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Name:

Rosemary Bromann

Address/Affiliation:

Spruce Elementary

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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.)

Class Cap Sizes/CTA bargaining

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
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Comments:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/18CC0rJPjS0QfYKuh_y32QD-kxSUAHv9kl8liHQMnQM/edit

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My name is Rosemary Bromann. I am a dedicated 5th Grade teacher at Spruce Elementary. I am a veteran teacher of 23 years who has been with SSFUSD for 5 years.

I spoke at the February board meeting, wrote in at the March meeting and am writing in again this evening to advocate for class cap sizes, particularly in Title 1 schools supporting an underserved community.

I am astounded and rather infuriated that the district will not even consider discussing class cap sizes. This is ridiculous!

3 years ago I had a class of 24 students at Spruce. My hands were full but I could effectively teach students and meet their needs. Now, I am overwhelmed with a class of 32. I feel like I scratch the surface helping students reach their potential and we barely fit in the room.

The district took one 4th and 5th grade teacher position out 3 years ago at Spruce because we were down to 62 students per grade level. The justification for the cuts was there weren't enough students for 3 classrooms. Our numbers would be too low per room at 20-21 students. In response, we were highly concerned so we brainstormed, as a team, and suggested a 4/5 combo and we even had a teacher willing to teach it. We were immediately shut down... "the district will never approve it" we were told by our admin. We then asked if numbers go up, could we possibly gain a position back and have 3 classes again. We were literally told most likely not. We then realized the district asked our opinion, when the decision had already been made. We voiced grave concerns that were brushed aside. Our opinions as educators were not valued just as they are not being valued now. What the district did at Spruce was create a mess. Right as we emerged from Covid and students were barely functioning emotionally and socially, you inflated our class numbers by 7 students. It made NO sense right when students needed support the most.

A little about my present 32-student classroom predicament: It is impossible for me to meet the vast and demanding educational and social-emotional needs of each of my students. This is not including the trauma, PTSD and poverty that is present in many of my students' lives. My larger class size also results in students exhibiting poor choice, rude behaviors, overstimulation, and lack of concentration. My students are simply struggling to function well in our overcrowded classroom.

As I mentioned, I spoke a few months ago and wrote a letter vouching mainly for the teachers. Tonight, I voice frustration and disgust at the conditions our students have to endure in a classroom of learning. If anything, start at the Title 1 schools! Bring back our 3rd teacher in both 4th and 5th grades. You WILL see improvement with content, valued teachers in functioning, healthy classrooms. Then move forward from there. Teachers are moving, leaving and seeking change because we are overworked and underappreciated. Our Title 1, marginalized communities have the highest, immediate needs in numerous areas. Class cap size is an issue that is important to ALL who work at Spruce. We support each other, the high needs of our students and We ALL see that change is necessary and overdue.

I find it ironic that the district talks and devotes countless hours to the "Portrait of a Graduate" plan but we are neglecting the needs of our youngest students where the seeds of learning are planted. You talk about where we want students to end up but are not taking into consideration the support they need to get there.

I ask that the district please consider THEIR needs. PLEASE work with the CTA bargaining team as it is necessary that we have reasonable class caps per educator, physical spaces that promote quality education, and more help for the needs of our highly impacted student communities, such as Spruce.

Your cooperation is imperative to their livelihood. The time is NOW! Stand up for outstanding education in SSFUSD and please compromise on Cap Size.

Board Meeting 5/23/2024

This survey will be turned off at 3:00pm 5/23/2024, no late entries will be accepted.

Name:

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Address/Affiliation:

ECHS

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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.)

Probability and Statistics at El Camino High School

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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:

Keep teaching probability and statistics at Echs! It is a fundamental and important class especially for college. The class also builds on prior skills and is useful for other classes such as psychology and biology. Please DO NOT remove this class!

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