

Public Comments
June 9, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

Public Comment on general topic:

I know that everyone is anxious to get kids back to school and I see that there are plans in place to keep everyone safe & healthy. I have reviewed tonite's agenda & I was wondering if you could give further clarification on 2 issues;

1. Masks

Will students be required to wear a mask while at school? I question if it is reasonable to expect elementary students to wear a mask the entire school day? Is it healthy for them to restrict their airflow all day? If a student wears glasses it is almost impossible for them to see clearly as the mask will ride up or their glasses will get foggy.

2. Physical Structures - Plexiglas screens

Can you give some insight as to what we can expect? I would like to think that there is a possibility of having 3 sided plexiglass partitions attached to the desk tops if using individual desks or freestanding 3 sided plexiglass partitions. Perhaps if utilizing the existing shared 6 foot tables we could install plexiglas tabletop partitions to safely continue using the shared long tables as desks?

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns from a Grandparent of 4 that will be attending Hermosa in just a few short weeks.

Sincerely,
Kathie Soto

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Item #2f and #2g:

Public Comment No. 1:

I would like to express my support for resolution#19 for 20/21 Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter.

As a mother of two FSD Raymond students, member of the PTA, and Fullerton voter, this issue is very important to me and my family. Every year we host a Martin Luther King Jr. party at our home to learn and celebrate the contribution of the man and the importance of black history. As a white American I am committed to teaching my children about race, justice, privilege, and the many contributions of black Americans, as well as the sad history of racism and injustice that continues today. I have been pleased to see many of these issues covered by great teachers at school already, but I would love to see greater support and leadership from our district on this topic. Please pass resolution #19 Proclaiming Black Lives Matter, in support of not just our Black students, families and staff, but so all our students are educated on how to address racial inequality and work towards justice.

Sincerely,
Ruthi Hanchett

Public Comment No. 2

On the 6/9 agenda is a resolution that proclaims that Black Lives Matter. I am concerned that our board member who represents Raymond has said over the years that she does not vote for resolutions as a general rule. Last year, she questioned why the District would have a Resolution for Cesar Chavez Day.

You do not represent this community if you cannot see why this resolution needs to go through.

As parents of two Latinx children who attend Raymond and an educator from Fullerton College I request that this resolution gets passed. This is not the time to be on the sidelines. More Black lives will be lost to systemic racism and police brutality unless people start to recognize their privilege and be an ally to the Black community.

We are watching. Do what's right.

Sincerely,
-Deniz & Anthony Fierro

Public Comment No. 3

I am writing to express my strong support for Fullerton School District's *Resolution Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter* (agenda item 2.f). As a faculty member at CSUF and a parent of children in the Fullerton School District, I am deeply invested stakeholder in the district. We cannot stay silent about the institutional and systemic injustices faced by the black community; to stay silent is to be complicit. It is essential for the district to express its support for black lives and, more importantly, to back those words of support up with direct action. I am pleased that the *Resolution Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter* does both by encouraging district-wide participation in the Black Lives Matter at School week and in the first weeks of the school year, and by acknowledging the very real ways that structural racism directly affects children and families in the district. The *Resolution* is a good first step to addressing the systemic racism inherent to American society and the American educational system; it lays the groundwork for future, meaningful direct action and for this reason I strongly support it. Thank you for your time.
All best,

Lana L. Dalley, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of English, Comparative Literature, and Linguistics
California State University, Fullerton

Public Comment No. 4

Hello,

My name is April Brannon, and I am an English professor at CSUF. I fully support the resolution proclaiming that Black Lives Matter, and I commend the leadership of the district for recognizing the importance of making such a resolution.

Thank you for your work toward equality and justice.

Sincerely,
April Brannon

Public Comment No. 5

Hi there, I'm a Cal State Fullerton professor and I wanted to register my support for the Fullerton School District's resolution (agenda item 2.f.). Thank you!

Best,
Nicole Seymour

Public Comment No. 6

I urge this board to adopt item 2.f. It is imperative to adjust our teaching to include anti-racist education in our curriculum. The bare minimum is to adopt the Black Lives Matter at School Week.

Furthermore, I urge the board to adopt item 2.h. with modification that includes information about the adoption of item 2.f.

Thank you,
Libby Frolichman

Public Comment No. 7

Dear Fullerton School District,

I am writing as a citizen of Fullerton, a parent whose high schooler once attended FSD, and as a college educator. I write this message in support of FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOLUTION #19/20-21.

In order to develop a multicultural curriculum and to demonstrate support for and understanding of black students I support the passing of Resolution #19. Passing this resolution would be a first step in demonstrating commitment to black students and their families. Additionally, the district should participate in Black Lives Matter Week by planning events and curriculum that teaches about the history of black lives in America and that celebrates black culture and achievements.

Furthermore, the school district should go beyond these measures and increase its commitment to diversifying the curriculum throughout the year by reevaluating history curriculum and literature selection. All our students deserve to see themselves reflected in their education.

Sincerely,
Dr. Amy Novak
Department of English, Comparative Literature, and Linguistics
California State University, Fullerton

Public Comment No. 8

Hello Fullerton School District,

I am writing to SUPPORT FSD's Resolution Proclaiming Black Lives Matter. I have a daughter ar Troy and am a Professor of English at CSUF. As a parent and educator in the community, I urge you to pass the Resolution at this critical moment.

Thank you,

Dr. David Sandner
Professor, English, CSUF

Public Comment No. 9:

Dear Trustees,

Please see this email as a sign of support for approving your resolution to Support Black Lives matter. Please vote as a step forward to represent communities of colors and to seek guidance on how you can all take steps moving forward to take direct action for change.

Lyndsey Lefebvre
La Habra, Ca
Fullerton College Alumni
CSU Fullerton Alumni

Public Comment No. 10:

I am in direct support of the black lives matter movement. We must take action now.

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Thank you,
Jamie Moser

Public Comment No. 11:

Dear Fullerton School
District,

Great
Schools...Successful
kids... This notion of a
great school is broad.
Great at what?

Preparing our children to be wonderful and productive citizens of our global
environment.

This is the mission...I am
mistaken?

Let's start with being a great domestic citizen. Growing up European American in a
country that has killed over 400 Million African Descendant people over the last 465
years has produced a dark mindset in all of our children. African American Kids grow
up hating their own skin, and their peers see them as less. If this statement was unfair,
my child would not have been called a monkey by a classmate...or a nigger by my
neighbors' child. I would not have to be proactive in helping them to love the texture
their hair and the warm beauty of their skin. Brings me to tears sometimes.

African American studies is not for my child. We teach them to love their skin and we
teach them their ENTIRE history...pre-slavery and beyond. It is up to you to make
sure their peers learn these items as well. If not, the same streets burning today will
be burning again 20 years from now. Is this what we want?

Great Schools. Successful students...Please ensure that you vote yes, and make
sure that Non African Descendant children come through our system knowing,
believing and understanding why the Black Lives of my children matter as much as
theirs. It's not enough to not be racist anymore. Its time to become Anti-racist. This
begins at home, and is reinforced at school.

**What you have done to the least of these...you have done to
me. Jesus Christ.** Sincerely,

Rashawn
Underdue

An African American Descendant of Slave Traders and Slave Thriving in a broken world
not without pains and scars. Please vote yes.

Public Comment No. 12:
Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of the Fullerton School District Board of Trustee's Resolution #19/20-21 Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter (Agenda Item 2.f.). The killing of unarmed Black men and women, including queer and trans persons of color, has left young people searching for answers to incredibly complicated and infuriating questions. All schools in FSD should participate in the national Black Lives Matter At School Week from February 3-7, 2021 AND in the first weeks of instruction of the 2020-2021 school year.

As an attorney, I am reaffirming my fundamental commitment to diversity, inclusion, and social justice, and commit to redouble my efforts to eliminate systemic racism and to advocate for needed legal reforms.

Thank you,
Sarah Kelman

Public Comment No. 13:

Dear Fullerton School District,

I am writing to affirm and applaud the “Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter” resolution. I am the parent of a Fullerton School District elementary student and a professor at California State University, Fullerton. As an educator, I understand the importance of directly addressing, discussing, and working to dismantle the complications of systemic oppressive systems and also of affirming the identities of individuals subject to longstanding discriminations. Thank you for offering this resolution.

Sincerely,

Dr. Irena Praitis
Professor of English
California State University, Fullerton

Public Comment No. 14:

FSD School Board,

I just received information about the resolution by the Board. I am completely in support of this idea. The resolution is beautifully written showing clarity and a social justice orientation to support Black students who are in the minority in FSD. I applaud this idea and hope that you vote to adopt it and post it. I feel proud that my daughter will be joining your school district in fall!

Sincerely,
Leah Brew, PhD, CCMHC, NCC, LPCC
Professor and Chair
California State University, Fullerton

Public Comment No. 15:

To whom it concerns,

I have recently read the resolution to the Fullerton School District Proclaiming the Black Lives Matter for the School Week from Feb 3-7, 2021.

I would like to HIGHLY support this resolution. Unfortunately, institutional and structural racism and injustice continues to deepen racial disparities across all sectors of society having lasting negative consequences for our communities, cities, and nation. As an educator for more than 30 years at CSUF, I understand the POWER of educational institutions in helping to shape the views of our children and youth. Please consider approving this resolution in order to bring awareness and education to our children and communities in Fullerton.

Blessings, Jessie C. Jones

Public Comment No. 16:

I am writing in support of the Fullerton School District Board of Trustee's Resolution #19/20-21 Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter (Agenda Item 2.f.). The killing of unarmed Black men and women, including queer and trans persons of color, has left young people searching for answers to incredibly complicated and infuriating questions. All schools in FSD should participate in the national Black Lives Matter At School Week from February 3-7, 2021 AND in the first weeks of instruction of the 2020-2021 school year.

As a university professor with a daughter in the FSD, I reaffirm my fundamental commitment to diversity, inclusion, and social justice, and commit to efforts to eliminate systemic racism and to advocate for needed reforms.

Thank you,
David Kelman
Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature
California State University, Fullerton

Public Comment No. 17:

Hello,

I want to express my strong support for Resolution #19/20-21 Proclaiming Black Lives Matter. My 2 daughters attend Rolling Hills Elementary School and I would like them to have this curriculum.

Thank you,

Olga L. Mejía, PhD
Summer Chair and Associate Professor
Director of Ánimo Latinx Counseling Emphasis
California State University, Fullerton

Department of Counseling

Public Comment No. 18:

Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of the Fullerton School District Board of Trustee's Resolution #19/20-21 Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter (Agenda Item 2.f.). The killing of unarmed Black men and women, including queer and trans persons of color, has left young people searching for answers to incredibly complicated and infuriating questions. All schools in FSD should participate in the national Black Lives Matter At School Week from February 3-7, 2021 AND in the first weeks of instruction of the 2020-2021 school year.

As a teacher, I am reaffirming my fundamental commitment to diversity, inclusion, and social justice, and commit to redouble my efforts to eliminate systemic racism and to advocate for needed legal reforms.

Thank you,
Monica Ramirez

Public Comment No. 19:

Hi there school board,

I am thrilled at this resolution to include Black Lives Matter (BLM) curriculum in my children's education. As a professor at CSUF, I recognize the value of teaching children about these issues early in their education. I commend the board for considering this step to validate the experiences of diverse students (and others in our community) while providing meaningful education. Imagine what a better world we will be in when everyone sees what exists (rather than ignoring social problems) and our education reflects true American values towards all.

Education is important here. I urge you each to step up for our children and our communities. Let's shine light on ignorance and bring the experiences of people of color out of the darkness. You all are true leaders here. It takes courage and I admire that!!

Thank you in advanced for this fantastic opportunity for our children and community.

Sincerely,
Dr. Mia Sevier

Human Services Department
California State University, Fullerton

Public Comment No. 20:

Dear FSD board members,

I am the parent of two boys (soon to be in 5th and 7th grade) who have been students at Rolling Hills Elementary since Kindergarten. With the guidance of amazing teachers and the support of the local community, they have received a relatively good education. My sons love learning and they love going to school. I am thankful for that. Unfortunately they have had only a few Black classmates and there is only one black teacher at their school- Mr. Daniels, PE. As we wonder why, we must also question if our Fullerton schools and community have actively created space for black students, black families, and black teachers. Incorporating Black Lives Matter at School is an initial step in the right direction. It will reinforce the educational goals that my family – Mexican and Native American- have been fostering at home. More than providing a strong academic foundation, we know that a good education must also create awareness and understanding of inequalities in our society so that our children can have the knowledge and tools to end systemic racism and create positive changes in the future. I would love to see BLM guest speakers visiting the classrooms of our children and leading workshops. K-12 curriculum has yet to honestly address the histories and present social realities of people of color in the U.S. These conversations are critical for a good k-12 education and should be led by people of color when possible.

In support of Black Lives Matter in Schools,

Ana Nez, PhD.
Lecturer in Ethnic Studies
California State University, Fullerton

Public Comment No. 21

As a Fullerton Resident I'd like to request the support of the resolution proclaiming that black lives matter. (Agenda item 2.f.) We need Orange County to educate and uplift our students in these crazy times. We need school board members who will support ethnic studies programs and implicit bias programs.

Thank you,

Megan Briceno

Public Comment No. 22:

To the Board of the Fullerton School District,

The Garcia family of Fullerton, CA strongly urges the Board of the Fullerton School District to adopt Resolution #19/20-21 proclaiming that Black Lives Matter. We wholeheartedly support the idea of our children learning through the Black Lives Matter at School curriculum. We are grateful to the Board for taking this historical action to raise equity in our community and schools. This action makes us tremendously proud to be a part of the Fullerton School District and excited at the prospect of raising awareness for all the children in Fullerton School District.

In support and gratitude,

Gabriel Garcia (6th grade, Hermosa Drive Elementary)

Diego Garcia (8th grade, Ladera Vista)

Marcia Taborga

Joe Albert Garcia

Public Comment No. 23:

Dear FSD Board of Trustees,

We said Black Lives Matter. We never said Only Black Lives Matter. We know All Lives Matter. We just NEED YOUR HELP with Black Lives Matter because Black Lives are the ones in danger and ALL lives won't matter until Black lives are considered a part of that equation.

If the fire department came to extinguish a house on fire, would you insist that your house needs water too? That's what you are doing when you present opposition to the notion that Black Lives Matter.

I walk to the end of my driveway and we are the only Black family for as far as the eye can see. My children continue to be the only Black children in their classes at Raymond. Just stop for a second and imagine what that marginalization feels like.

The law once categorized us as 3/5 of a person. Living while Black in America in 2020 still feels that way.

Last year for Black History Month, we hosted a school assembly with an African storyteller, because I advocated for it via the PTA. Because I did not say anything this year, it was once again ignored. There needs to be systemic change for this critical learning to take place at each school in the district.

I am grateful for teachers like Mrs. Pepin, who immediately addressed when a White child called my daughter "monkey" in TK. I am grateful for Mrs. Gatto who read the book "Don't Touch My Hair" to her class, empowering my daughter, who often experiences said offense. These one-offs will not be enough to change the tide of our country's foundation. You, FSD, must also step up and you can do so by passing Resolution #19.

Anyone who cites the low percentage of African Americans in FSD as justification for denying us representation is in fact a part of the problem we are currently revolting against. The global news coverage will show you that this behavior is no longer tolerable. CSUF has less than 2% African American students and yet has a resource center, faculty/staff association and a dedicated full time staff to address the needs. Resolution #19 is only asking for a week-long educational experience. These types of educational experiences will acknowledge everyone's humanity and help to avoid incidences like the modern day lynching we witnessed with George Floyd. This is an

issue of equity and inclusion. This is your call to action, FSD. You too, can do something. Please do the right thing.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharnette M. Underdue

Public Comment No. 24:

Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of the Fullerton School District Board of Trustee's Resolution #19/20-21 Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter (Agenda Item 2.f.). The killing of unarmed Black men and women has left young people searching for answers to incredibly complicated and infuriating questions. All schools in FSD should participate in the national Black Lives Matter At School Week from February 3-7, 2021 AND in the first weeks of instruction of the 2020-2021 school year.

My niece is in the Fullerton School District. I live in Richmond, Virginia where they are only now going to take down statues of Confederate generals and the president of the Confederacy. It is only now that we are turning away from publicly revering those who fought for the proposition that Black Lives should not be Free. History is happening right now and I think it's vital that the children in your charge learn what it means better than we did. They will be doing the heavy lifting.

Thank you,
Bob Wieman

Public Comment No. 25:

Hello,

I am in favor of #19, that proclaims that Black Lives Matter.
Janel Falcon

Public Comment No. 26

To Whom It May Concern:

When my daughter came home from 1st grade and shared a very whitewashed version of the story and impact of Dr Martin Luther King Jr I immediately asked for a meeting with the principal of her school. After meeting with Ms Faur, I was shocked to learn that the school did not celebrate Black History Month at all. As a Navy Veteran I know first hand the impact of pausing regularly to acknowledge the many diverse cultures that make America what it is today. At EVERY military installation there is a committee with this expressed role. How can we expect to children to grow into non-racist adults when we only begin discussing diversity at the collegiate level? In an effort to do what I can, I began to volunteer more frequently so that the children in my daughter's classroom would have exposure to Black people other than what is seen on television. What will

Fullerton School District do on their part? What steps will you take to ensure that no child walks away from a school in your district feeling as if anyone person is higher or lower on the totem pole of life?

Best Regards,

Amaris Avellan, M.A.
ABC MultiageK3 Parent

Public Comment No. 27:

I support Fullerton school district's resolution proclaiming that black lives matter.

Nicole Ofori-Atta

Public Comment No. 28:

Dear Esteemed Fullerton School District Board of Trustees,

AHRI for Justice represents residents, students, parents, and community leaders of Fullerton. On behalf of our members, we urge the Fullerton School Board Trustees to **adopt a resolution in support of the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020.**

During the March 2020 primaries, we called and surveyed residents in Orange County. Of the voters we talked to, 1,981 voters in Fullerton are in support of corporations paying their fair share. We urge you to **adopt a resolution in support of the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020.** As we are bracing for budget cuts on K-12 education, this act would bring \$12 billion in funding into our schools and communities. SCF would help create an education system that is properly funded to meet the needs of low-income families and communities of color.

In addition, we are asking the Fullerton School Board Trustees to speak against injustices in our communities and **adopt a resolution proclaiming Black Lives Matter.** In light of the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, and many others, we must not be silent as leaders in Orange County and must support the Black community by speaking against systemic racial inequality and police brutality.

Once again, we are urging you, the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees, to **adopt a resolution proclaiming Black Lives Matter and adopt a resolution in support of the Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2020.**

Best,
SUSAN CHENG
Organizing Director

Public Comment No. 29:

Dear School Board Members,

I think racism is wrong and I want the Fullerton School District to speak up about it. Please vote yes for resolution #19 which proclaims that Black Lives Matter at Fullerton schools. I want Fullerton schools to participate in Black Lives Matter Week at school because it will make black and brown students feel appreciated and that they are not alone in this fight for justice. It means a lot to me because I have friends who are black and brown and I care about them.

Sincerely,

Lucia Valdes
4th Grader at Raymond School

Public comment No. 30:

Good morning,

As the parent of two children at Beechwood Elementary, and an Associate Professor in the College of Education at California State University Fullerton, I was delighted to read Fullerton School District's proposed resolution Proclaiming Black Lives Matter. It is a beautifully crafted resolution, and an important step towards engaging ALL FSD students in meaningful, educative dialogues about race and racial injustice. I strongly encourage the Board to adopt this resolution as written.

As the parent of white children, I have worked to help my daughters (who are entering grades 2 and 5) understand not only the racial history of the United States, but also their opportunity - and responsibility - to help promote racial understanding and justice. While learning about Black heroes (as is often done during Black History Month) is important, children need a more robust understanding of racial identity, systemic racism, and racial justice in order to effectively navigate our complex world. Moreover, they need practice learning and talking about race, especially with peers who have different experiences, identities, or world views. In addition to underscoring our district's support for Black children and families (which is critically necessary), the learning activities outlined in the proposed resolution would provide opportunities for ALL FSD children to learn and grow.

As both a parent and a teacher educator, I have found the Black Lives Matter at School framework especially tremendously helpful. In addition to developmentally appropriate resources for children in grades K-8, they also provide resources for teachers and parents who need support in teaching and talking about race. I use this curriculum at home with my own children, and draw upon the resources within my teacher education courses at Cal State Fullerton. I would be delighted to see Black Lives Matter addressed throughout the district, and am happy to be a support as you plan for and support teachers in implementation.

Thank you again for your leadership regarding racial identity and justice within and beyond our District. Reading this resolution made me so proud to be part of FSD!

Thank you,
Dr. Alison Dover

Public Comment No. 31:

As biracial woman & former student of FSD, these are my personal experiences:

1st grade: Repeatedly referred to as “Oreo girl” & “Chocolate milk” by students. 2nd grade: Repeatedly ridiculed for my natural hair by students. 4th grade: Told by the only Black educator I would have in my 13 years in the district, that I was, “not really* Black” in front of the class. 5th grade: Called the N* word by a student; told by staff I could not be a “maiden” in ‘Pirates on Penzance’ because they “would not know what to do with my hair”. 6th grade: Told by staff I could not be Martha Washington in the play ‘1776’ because I was Black. 7th grade: Had my hair pulled so hard I was brought to the ground (all because the student thought my hair was fake).

None of these instances of racist behavior were addressed or effectively dealt with. As such, the FSD failed to ensure a safe learning environment and did not provide proper education to the students and staff of the site.

Today, as a parent of a biracial student in the district, I believe it is imperative that the resolution in support of Black Lives Matter in Schools be passed. This is an important step in correcting past failures and creating healthy educative dialogues around race and racial injustice. I believe the information in the Black Lives Matter in Schools curriculum is crucial for students of ALL races and ethnicities. The decision should not be made based upon the percentage of Black students in the district, what we need to focus on is the future and providing ALL students with a clear understanding of equality and equity.

My question is, are we shorting our educators by limiting the dialogue to students? I can say, as a current FSD employee, we have room to grow. Shouldn't the District also provide its educators with the proper Diversity Training needed to successfully equip, enrich and empower our students?

My hope is that the voting members of the School Board will recognize this as an opportunity to effect positive change in our schools and our community.

Thank you,
Devon Moore

Public Comment No. 32:

Dear FSD,

I am a parent of two children at Raymond elementary school. I strongly agree with allowing the BLM resolution to be at all our schools. Teaching and helping our kids to understand about this movement is so important. Not only for them, but also for the world which they live in. Let's teach love and peace.

Thank you
Anne Stott

Public Comment No. 33:

As a Fullerton school teacher I thank the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees for encouraging the participation and instruction of the Black Lives Matter movement. We need to work together to have a dialogue, find solutions and heal together from the recent events.

Shital Desai

Public Comment No. 34:

Greetings. I would like to add my voice of support to FSD Resolution #19/20-21, Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter. I speak not only as an educator of educators but also as a resident of Fullerton who has attended as well as taught in public schools in California from K-16. This resolution represents a significant first step toward transforming the public school curriculum away from a normalized set of knowledge and skills that is in fact highly selective in what and who is deemed "normal" or acceptable for inclusion. This resolution offers concrete actions that begin to bring marginalized identities and all-too-often silenced perspectives into the curriculum, in a sense re-defining what and who are worth including. It speaks volumes that the Board president has brought this resolution to the agenda as she is among the handful of people in leadership roles charged with the responsibility to ensure that, in the words of the FSD Mission Statement, "all students will achieve academic excellence, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society." Such work as articulated in this resolution is particularly important in Fullerton, a community that in its early years had racial restrictions on the ownership of real estate

(<https://www.dailyjournal.com/articles/344840-how-orange-county-began-the-end-of-racially-restrictive-covenants>) and a superintendent of schools who was a member of the KKK (http://libraryfchistory.fullcoll.edu/photos.php?image_id=242).

I strongly support the passage and implementation of Resolution #19/20-21 Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter and look forward to future such measures aimed at creating an educational climate that is reflective of and respectful of the diversities within our community.

Thank you,

Mark W. Ellis, Ph.D., NBCT
Professor, Secondary Education

College of Education, California State University Fullerton

Public Comment No. 35:

Dear School Board Members,

I'm writing to you in support of resolution 19 Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter to Fullerton School District. As a white identifying member of the community, I believe that at this point in history silence about racial injustice makes us complicit in it continuing. My hope is that we can seize on this moment to teach our children the value of advocacy and speaking out against systemic racism and violence towards African American and people of color in our community. Fullerton school district students watch and learn from the actions of teachers, school staff and school leaders such as yourselves, and are strongly influenced by these adult role models. As you may know, the California PTA has issued a statement denouncing racial injustice and calling for greater equity and inclusion, and it is my hope that leaders in FSD can make a similar statement by supporting resolution 19.

In reading the text of the resolution, I am so happy to see that it includes lessons for FSD students which promote developmentally appropriate dialogue around race and racial injustice. It would be such a valuable experience for our children to engage in this topic along with their school peers. My daughter attends the DLA program at Raymond, and we have seen first hand the value of the Hispanic cultural education provided as part of this program. We hope that in the future this cultural education can be expanded to include more in depth education on accurate black history, racial injustice and minority experiences in the US as well - as appears to be supported in this resolution.

Thank you all for your service to the community, and please vote yes on this important resolution!

With appreciation,

Stephanie Valdes
Parent of Raymond Elementary school student

Public Comment No. 36:

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Catherin Quirk

Public Comment No. 37:

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Signed,
Carrie Guggenmos class of 2006

Public Comment No. 38:

Submitted by Cindy Vuong cindytvuong@gmail.com

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Cindy Vuong

Public Comment No. 39:

As a parent of three children at Raymond Elementary I consider it my duty as a parent to teach them to be kind and considerate to ALL people. Now, more than ever it is imperative that we teach our children to celebrate the differences among the people in our community. I would like to see the Black Lives Matters education introduced in to our curriculum and our children appropriately informed about race and racial injustices.

Thank you,
Melissa Hoagland

Public Comment No. 40:

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world.

The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.
Carolyn Vuong

Public Comment No. 41:

Submitted by Ricky Zollinger, Ricky@flexandfood.com I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Public Comment No. 42:

Submitted by Alexandra Duran-Kneip, alexa.duran91@yahoo.com

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21

Public Comment No. 43:

Good evening President Jeanette Vazquez, Vice President Hilda Sugarman, Trustee Beverly Berryman, Trustee Janny Meyer, Trustee Aruni Thakur, and Superintendent Dr. Bob Pletka:

I stand in support of this resolution. Families and our communities are once again grieving and angry over the killing of an unarmed Black American. In Fullerton and across the United States, there are calls for change and justice to systems that treat people differently because of the color of their skin. Whether it's in education, housing,

economy, or healthcare, we have institutions that have long denied access and equality to Black Americans and other communities of color. Our students deserve to know that we hear them, we see them, and we support them.

We need to do a better job at dismantling racist systems, and the first step is recognizing that Black lives matter. The last two weeks have demonstrated that it cannot be business as usual anymore. We have to educate each other on the racial disparities that exist in our country and work together to enact real reform. I'm proud that the Fullerton School District is taking this necessary step in adopting this resolution and to stand in solidarity with the Black community. I join them and our Fullerton students and families in affirming that Black lives matter.

Sincerely,

Representative Gil Cisneros submitted by Martin Medrano

Public Comment No. 44:

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd.

Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. I know I wish I learned about racism earlier on in my school days, and I want the future generations to be further ahead and prepared. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Submitted by Chris Hanneke (hannekechris@gmail.com)

Public Comment No. 45:

Submitted by Peter Karaya pkaraya2000@yahoo.com

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in

FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Public Comment No. 46:

Submitted by Joshua Dubon (jdubon11@gmail.com).

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Public Comment No. 47:

Submitted by Brittany Berry (missberry221@gmail.com)

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Public Comment No. 48:

Submitted by Jasmine S. Brown (jazz64u95@sbcglobal.net)

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the

time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Public Comment No. 49:

Submitted by Autumn Mendoza Montgomery
Autumn_mendoza_montgomery@myfsd.org

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. It is an educators responsibility to prepare students for the real world and the Social injustices present. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Public Comment No. 50:

Submitted by Grace Shin - grceshin@gmail.com

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Public Comment No. 51:

Good Afternoon,

I would like to submit the following statement from Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva, in support of the Black Lives Matter resolution on the agenda for June 9, 2020.

“As a classroom teacher for over thirty years, I have witnessed systemic racism as it is in our schools with children of color being disciplined and expelled at a much higher rate than their peers. As educators and community leaders we must be committed to caring for each of our students, amplifying the voices of the unheard, and utilizing our tools and resources to dismantle hurtful structures and promote collective healing. It is imperative that we speak up about the injustices

that have been endured for far too long, continue to shape our institution, and continue our efforts of empathy in and outside of our community.”

Thank you for consideration of the Assemblywoman’s statement.

Best,

Amy Ramos

Public Comment No. 52:

Dear Fullerton School District Board,

I am writing in support of the Fullerton School District’s Resolution Proclaiming Black Lives Matter. As a teacher, educational researcher, and university Assistant Professor, I have seen the deep need for educational organizations to not only support educational equity, but to recognize the systematic inequity that has and continues to exist in our society. I applaud this step by the Fullerton School District and believe that it has the potential to be a foundation for fundamental change in FSD, education, and our society. I specifically want to support the encouragement in district-wide participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week. It is essential that the resolution be enacted in curriculum if there is to be a significant change in education. However, I caution the Board at stopping there. We have endless examples of curriculum becoming diluted when teachers and administrators are not provided proper professional development. I encourage the board to not only encourage participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week, but commit to the support that such an effort needs.

Thank you for taking this important step and for not being silent during this potentially transformative time.

Sincerely,

Gavin

Gavin Tierney, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
[Department of Secondary Education](#)

Public Comment No. 53:

Submitted by Dorie Chang

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world.

The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Public Comment No. 54:

I am writing to encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to vote in support of adopting Resolution #19/20-21 Proclaiming that Black Lives Matter which declares that the lives of black students matter and would encourage participation district-wide in the Black Lives Matter At School Week.

Thank you,

Lauren Orr

Public Comment No. 55:

Submitted by Esther Song [ehsong93@gmail.com]

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Thank you.

Esther Song

Public Comment No. 56:

Submitted by Ellen Walsh:

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism

and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd and many others. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21

Public Comment No. 57:

Submitted by [Esther] [Lee] [2013estherlee@gmail.com]

I encourage the Fullerton School District Board of Trustees to adopt Resolution #19/20-21. It is time for FSD to stand up for BIPOC students, staff, and teachers. Educators cannot prepare children for the world without addressing what's happening in the world. The tragedy of the death of George Floyd is a teachable moment. Institutional racism and anti-Blackness are responsible for the death of Mr. Floyd. Research shows children are not too young to learn about racism. Encouraging participation in Black Lives Matter At School Week would send a clear message to all students that antiracism education in FSD is a priority. Doing nothing and staying silent is no longer acceptable. Now is the time for all school administrations to be open to much-needed changes related to the injustice and inequity of racism. Please vote in favor of Resolution #19/20-21.

Esther Lee

Public Comment No. 58:

Dear Supervisors,

I am writing to you today to ask that you DO NOT pass Resolution #19/20-21 "Proclaiming that black lives matter".

While I want to assure you that I am equally horrified at the evidence of police brutality in the George Floyd death and in others, and stand strongly against any form of discrimination; I cannot support our school district utilizing a political movement as a method of teaching about diversity and inclusion. At the start of the BLM movement the notions and motivations were perhaps more pure, but I am sure that the Board of Supervisors is savvy enough to understand the ongoing politically charged and motivated changes that have happened over the past almost 7 years in the BLM. This is no longer a group solely intent on improving race relations in our country, but now one with very strong political agendas many of which stand opposed to other values that I would say are equally important to student safety, growth and development. How would our teachers be instructed to respond to a student inquiring about the "defund police" signs carried by BLM activists? Why would we put our teachers in the position of having to navigate the concerns of other activists taking advantage of the BLM protesters like

antifa and others? Are we really ready to have these conversations at school? And who's political bias will instruct those teachers on how to answer?

Instead of following the crowd eager to jump on the #blacklivesmatter just for the sake of not being the one that doesn't, I would much rather see our schools actually teach the skills that it takes to help improve race relations and ensure true knowledge in regards to diversity and equity. How about some efforts around teaching early about implicit bias. It is NOT the place of our schools to bring in political agendas, but rather to teach our children how to evaluate issues from all angles, and to make solid decisions for themselves. Schools should not be in the business of political indoctrination. Please do not give into the temptation to sign this resolution and just be done. Show that the district is actually prepared to make real change not just "shout loudly" as the resolution encourages. Take the real step in making our society a just society by doing the real work not just continuing to advertise for a political group.

A recent quote that is fitting for a Children's Hospital to make a stand is equally fitting for our schools:

"Children are not born to hate. It is something they are taught. We stand with those who want to change the world through teaching our children EQUALITY & JUSTICE FOR ALL".

This is a statement devoid of political agenda and speaks the truth of the task at hand. I encourage the district to find other means to truly support this effort and not be tempted to follow the crowd.

Please keep politics out of our schools and DO NOT PASS Resolution #19/20-21.
Thank you for your time and attention.

Katherine Andreeff

Public Comment No. 59:

I don't support the resolution as it is written right now. I am in support of a resolution that is committed to the civil rights message that started with the black community and continues on today. The message that all people have the right to freedom and equality regardless of race. That judgment should be about the content of my character and not about the color of my skin.

Clinton Mosley- Nicolas JHS teacher

Public Comment No. 60:

My husband and I moved to Fullerton in 2003 with the hope of finding a public-school option that provided a quality education in a diverse setting. Prior to moving here, we looked at communities as far south as San Clemente and as far north as Newbury Park and Woodland Hills. One of the key factors for choosing Fullerton was that, at the time, no single population or group constituted a majority. For us, that seemed to make for an ideal setting to educate our children. Sure enough, our kids grew up experiencing completely different cultures than we did growing up. For example, they came home requesting foods like Busha Busha, seaweed, musubi, and to our complete dismay (for a black family from the south) pumpkin pie! A good helping of sweet potato pie remedied

the short-lived pumpkin pie craze, but in general, we could not be happier with their varied experiences over the years.

Fast forward 12 years. A mere few weeks ago, we all witnessed a man's killing; something that horrified EVERYONE, who witnessed the crime. But I wonder, did you stop and think about that most pertinent reality? At a time when our nation is so terribly divided about different issues, the people of this country *all* agreed about one central point. That is, *everyone* affirmed that no human being, of any color or race, or of any status or capacity, should be at risk of facing a heartless death at the hands of a police officer. Police and people from all quarters agreed. However, instead of unifying around this one point and working to establish specific policies to redress this horrific outcome, or even move forward by addressing the negatives that remain from racial division in our country, people resorted to kicking up more derision and hate.

Could we all do better to treat our neighbors with respect and show concern for the plight of those facing wrongs or injustice? Sure! Recognizing this fact, let us work together to act on those things that are fully within our hands to accomplish. I caution you not to take moments or feelings or traits and conflate them with racism. As a society, we cannot devolve to the state where we put more effort into branding entire swaths of the population as racist than we do solving real problems. Doing so promulgates a false narrative that does nothing to improve our nation's culture and communities nor improve the standing of disenfranchised people. Moreover, as it relates to this body, that is **not** what education is about, nor what "inclusion" involves.

Angela Jones

Public comment deadline 2:00 p.m. on June 9, 2020