

January 13, 2016

Hayward Unified School District Board of Trustees
24411 Amador Street
Hayward, CA 94544

Dear Trustees:

On behalf of the 24,000 students in the Hayward Unified School District, we, the undersigned, continue our commitment to school improvement and good governance practices in the Hayward Unified School District. We note with appreciation that the School District has made academic progress and support the efforts to expand on these gains.

We are, however, discouraged to hear that efforts related to conflict resolution and governance training have been delayed, and that civility and productivity in School Board Operations continues to be limited.

These limitations were evidenced most recently by the cancellation of the governance training workshop previously scheduled for December 19, 2015, and the lack of a quorum at three board meetings during the month of December 2015, which resulted in a waste of district resources necessitated by the need to reschedule meetings in order to cast votes related to mission-critical governance actions, such as the passage of the budget.

We strongly urge you to complete this initial training that you committed to participate in last fall, no later than February 1, 2016, and we ask that you report your progress during upcoming Board meetings.

While we appreciate Board Members' stated commitments to fiscal accountability, these statements appear to be in direct conflict with some Board Members lack of attendance at key meetings and lack of attention to the recent Interim Financial report.

Unfortunately, a lack of quorum and action on important agenda items appears to be a consistent issue for the Board. For example, on the same evening that the Interim Financial report was on the agenda, Board Policies were not considered, Donations were not accepted, and Appointees to the Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee were not completed, delaying their work.

We applaud the efforts of President Brunner and Vice President Walker for their demonstrated commitment to remain engaged until the Board completed its business, and we strongly recommend that Mr. McGee, Dr. Reynoso, and Mr. Taylor reaffirm their commitment and participation in mission-critical Board meetings and votes. We also recommend that you reformat your agendas so that items requiring a vote are heard earlier in the evening.

We will continue to attend Board Meetings and encourage you to call on us as partners in the support and success of our students.

Sincerely,

Hayward Area Faith & Community Leaders

The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister, Eden United Church of Christ
Councilmember Sara Lamnin, Hayward City Council

Ms. Betty DeForest, Executive Director, South Hayward Parish

The Rev. Chuck Horner, Pastor, Evangelical Churches of Hayward

Mr. Ed Bullok, Hayward Businessman

The Rev. Joy Atkinson, Minister, Starr King Unitarian Universalist Association

Mr. Paul Frumkin, Former Member HUSD Board of Trustees

Supervisor Nate Miley, Alameda County, District 4

Councilmember Elisa Márquez, Hayward City Council

Councilmember J. Francisco Zermeño C., Hayward City Council

Bay East Association of REALTORS

Mr. Kim Huggett, Executive Director, Hayward Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Robert Sakai, Attorney at Law, Hayward

Mr. Hugh O'Donnell, Vice President, Cherryland Community Association

Mr. Otto Catrina, Catrina Real Estate

Councilmember Al Mendall, Mayor Pro Tempore, Hayward City Council

Dr. Maria Ochoa, Mt. Eden High School Alumna, 1968

Mr. Michael Sweeney, Mayor, City of Hayward, Retired

Ms. Katelyn Radtke, Operations Manager, Foothill Locksmiths Inc.

Mr. Chris Lam, President, Pucci Foods

Dr. Jagdish Agrawal, Dean of the Business School & Professor of Marketing, CSU, East Bay

Dr. Marshall Mitzman, Trustee, Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

The Honorable Barbara Halliday, Mayor, City of Hayward

Dr. Jennifer Ong, O.D., Family Eye Care

Ms. Ingrid Moller, President, Cherryland Community Association