Agenda Item 9.1

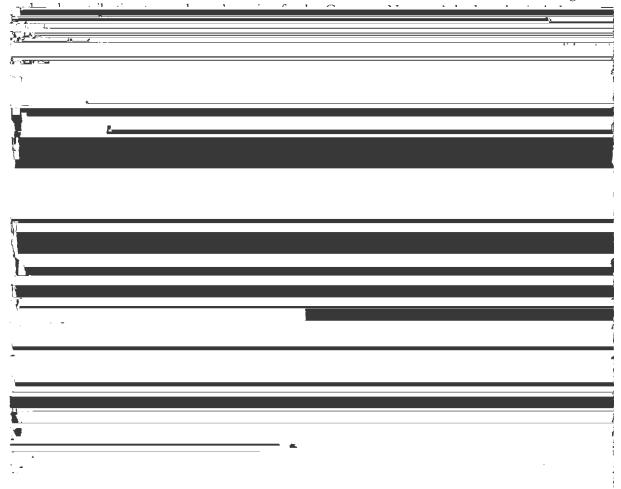
Comments by David Fisher, President of the Sacramento City Teachers Association (SCTA), to the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) Board of Education, Public Comment (Report of SCTA)

January 14, 2021

In July 2018, Superintendent Jorge Aguilar submitted a budget that was rejected in August 2018 by the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE). Since then, Superintendent Aguilar and other District administrators have been telling the public continuously that the District is on the verge of insolvency.

In 2018-19, Distric		ojected SCUSD v	vould end the year	with a \$35 million	deficit
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Governor Newsom's budget will increase LCFF funding to SCUSD by \$15.7 million in 2021-22, and by \$24.4 million in 2022-23. It will also provide an additional \$4 million to the SCUSD through a



potentially millions more to Sac City through state categorical funds, as well as another potential \$30 million in reopening and extended learning opportunities.

Considering only the Governor's increased LCFF funding and pension contribution reduction, this school board will be able to pass a Second Interim Budget that has a "Positive Certification," in March putting an end to the SCOE fiscal oversight and an end to the narrative that SCUSD is on the brink of insolvency.

In short, the State Budget gives this new school board an opportunity to create a new, constructive optimistic path forward for our District.

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Moreover, the Superintendent's effort to shift costs to employees has created unprecedented conflict with both SCTA and SEIU. And toward what end?

What does Mr. Aguilar want to do with the nearly \$20 million he is demanding in cost-shifting from employees? According to the researchers at PACE, Mr. Aguilar's primary motivation is to build up the District's reserve fund.

How does having a reserve fund that exceeds \$100 million help today's students?

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