

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Rosie Yacoub
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4
Comment:	SCUSD should be more ambitious than carbon neutrality in 2045. Considering not replacing any equipment with fossil fuel burning equipment, like SDUSD.

- o Power current and new schools with solar technology and battery storage.
- o Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat pumps.

As schools battle increasing heatwaves, many also lack the appropriate cooling mechanisms to continue operating. There are significant correlations between air quality and cognitive function among students. Experts have found that increased CO2 levels often result in reduced focus, sleepiness, headaches and increased asthmatic episodes in classrooms.

- o Creating green schoolyards that increase shade, reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces & create a barrier against flooding.

Numerous schoolyards across the district, region and country are made with heat-trapping asphalt, which in turn increases the heat on the playground and community.

- o Direction to staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing old fossil-fuel-powered equipment.
- o Engage with students , parents, staff, and the public (local community groups) to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.
- o Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

Other school districts such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, Maine, Santa

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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Nancy Castignetti
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School: N/A

- Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.

- Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

Other school districts such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, and Denver public schools have taken action to move faster on climate change. It is time for Sacramento City Unified School District to lead the way on building a culture of resilience in and around schools.

Sincerely,

Nancy Castignetti

pursuing these grants with more staff time, and / or ensure that all planning for major renovation include a level of assessment that could be used to secure grants, this could help the district take advantage of more opportunities.

In the short term, I would recommend that the board consider asking staff to strengthen the language around modernization and retrofits to require electrification at time of replacement; and require the addition of solar during any major renovation. But the district should also engage with students and the broader community to craft a climate policy that more broadly that includes getting fossil fuels out of buildings, transportation, and maintenance equipment, treats school grounds as part of the urban forest, and engages the students in becoming part of the change we all need.

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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Bronwyn Schweigerdt
School:	N/A

Agenda
Item #

- Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat pumps.
- Creating green schoolyards that increase shade and reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces & create a barrier against flooding.
- Direction to staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.
- Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.
- Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

Other school districts such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, and Denver public schools have taken action to move faster on climate change. It is time for the Sacramento City Unified School District to lead the way on building a culture of resilience in and around schools.

Sincerely,

Ron Sadler

	<p>Patricia Prendergast</p>
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Sacramento City Unified School District
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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Rev. Michael Dack
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4
Comment:	<p>Dear Superintendent & School Board Members,</p> <p>I'm a community member in Sacramento. On Thursday, October 5, you will be voting on Resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon-neutral goals and guidelines for SCUSD buildings to be carbon neutral by 2045.</p> <p>While this is a positive first step, we need to do more and do it faster to combat the threats from climate change. becoming carbon-free by 2030. Later may be too late.</p> <p>We ask that SCUSD declare a Climate Emergency now and adopt plans to ensure that schools and all school district operations are carbon-free by 2030 or sooner.</p> <p>Other districts, such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, and Denver, have taken action to move faster on climate change. It is time for SCUSD to do the same.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Rev. Michael Dack</p>

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Megan Shumway
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4
Comment:	<p>You should follow SMUD's lead, Declare a Climate Emergency, and do everything possible to get to Carbon Zero by 2030. The Date of 2030 is not random. It is the date by which many scientists believe we have a chance to make changes that might slow down climate change. After that date, global warming may well accelerate for years to come, in spite of decarbonization measures. Sustainable schools will be the ones that can continue to educate our children.</p> <p>The schools are fortunate that there are multiple programs, grants, and rebates to make a school carbon-free. Making schools more sustainable makes the community more sustainable, It protects the health of the children, their families, the school staff, and the surrounding community.</p> <p>I implore you to vote to make the date you reach sustainability 2030. anything else will be too late.</p> <p>--</p> <p>Megan Shumway</p>

Sacramento City Unified

- Concrete plans to electrify all new school buses and all district vehicles.
- Power current and new schools with solar technology and battery storage.
- Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat pumps.
- Creating green schoolyards that increase shade and reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces & create a barrier against flooding.
- Direction to staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.
- Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.
- Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

Other school districts such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, and Denver public schools have taken action to move faster on climate change. It is time for the Sacramento City Unified School District to lead the way on building a culture of resilience in and around schools.

--
Doug MacPherson

Sacramento City Unified School District
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October 5

Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat pumps.

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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Patricia Johnson
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School: N/A

**Sacramento City Unified School District
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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Brian Boies
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4

Comment: Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,

My name is Brian Boies and I am a parent in Sacramento.

On Thursday, October 5th, you will be voting on resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon- neutral goal

buildings), and it should include:

Concrete plans to electrify all new school buses and all district vehicles.

Power current and new schools with solar technology and battery storage.

Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat pumps.

Creating green schoolyards that increase shade and reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces & create a barrier against flooding.

Direction to staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.

Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.

Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

Other school districts such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, and Denver public schools have taken action to move faster on climate change. It is time for Sacramento City Unified School District to lead the way on building a culture of resilience in and around schools.

Sincerely,

Brian Boies (he/him)

Sacramento City Unified School District
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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Carol Marque
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4

Comment:

Create green schoolyards that increase shade, reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces, and create a barrier against flooding.

Direct staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.

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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Steve Wirtz, PhD
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4

Comment: Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,

I strongly urge the SCUSD Board to strengthen Resolution #9.4 to declare a climate emergency NOW and adopt plans to ensure our schools are carbon-free BY 2030. Later may be too late. We must create healthy, climate-resilient, and sustainable school facilities NOW. Such a plan must be comprehensive (not just applying to buildings), and it should include:

- Concrete plans to electrify all new school buses and all district vehicles.
- Power current and new schools with solar technology and battery storage.
- Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat pumps.
-

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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Patricia Newman
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4

Comment: Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,

My name is Patricia Newman, and I am a member of the greater Sacramento-area community.

I understand that on Thursday, October 5th, you will be voting on resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon- neutral goals and guidelines for SCUSD buildings to be carbon neutral by 2045.

While this is a positive first step, we need to do more and faster to combat the risks of climate change. **We ask that the District follow the lead of SMUD and aim for a goal of becoming a carbon-free district by 2030.** The world is falling far short of our climate change goals. Later may be too late. We must create healthy, climate-resilient, and sustainable school facilities NOW.

We are seeing unprecedented ocean temperatures, wildfires, catastrophic heat waves, flooding, pandemics, crop failures, and species extinction. The earth is likely to cross critical tipping points for global warming in the next decade, and we must make an immediate and drastic shift away from fossil fuels to prevent the planet from overheating dangerously beyond that level. We must act to protect the health, safety, & future of our children.

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equipment.

6. Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.

7. Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

Other districts, such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, and Denver, have taken action to move faster on climate change. **IT IS TIME FOR SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO LEAD THE WAY.** 2030 is late enough, every day until then should be utilized for creating a cleaner world for our family that we leave behind.

Sincerely,

Melissa Steurer

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	C. Lynn Goldsmith
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4
Comment:	<p>Dear Superintendent & School Board Members,</p> <p>Tomorrow you will be voting on Resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon-neutral goals and guidelines for SCUSD buildings to be carbon neutral.</p> <p>We need to do more and do it faster to combat the threats from climate change. We ask _____-free by 2030. Please create healthy, climate-resilient, and sustainable school facilities NOW to prevent climate disasters later.</p> <p>We ask that SCUSD declare a Climate Emergency now. Such a plan should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Electrify all new school buses and all district vehicles.Power all schools with solar technology and battery storage.Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat pumps.Create green schoolyards that increase shade, reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces, and create a barrier against flooding.Direct staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030. <p>Thank you for your consideration of voting with a thought to our future.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>C. Lynne Goldsmith</p>

**Sacramento City Unified School District
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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Lisa Phenix
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4

Comment: Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,

Sincerely,

Lisa Phenix

Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Shishpal Rawat
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4
Comment:	<p>Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,</p> <p>My name is Shishpal Rawat and I am a parent and community member in Sacramento.</p> <p>On Thursday, October 5th, you will be voting on resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon- neutral goals and guidelines for SCUSD buildings to be carbon neutral by 2045.</p> <p>While this is a positive first step, we need to do more and faster to combat the risks of climate change. <u>We ask that the District follow the lead of SMUD and aim for a goal of becoming a carbon-free district by 2030.</u> The world is still falling short of our climate change goals. Later may be too late. We MUST TAKE THE LEAD NOW in creating healthy, climate-resilient, and sustainable school facilities.</p> <p>We are seeing unprecedented ocean temperatures, wildfires, catastrophic heat waves, flooding, pandemics, crop failures, and species extinction. The earth is likely to cross critical tipping points for global warming in the next decade, and we must make an immediate and drastic shift away from fossil fuels to prevent the planet from overheating dangerously beyond that level. We must act to protect the health, safety, & future of our children.</p> <p><u>We ask that SCUSD declare a climate emergency now and adopt plans to ensure our schools are carbon-free by 2030.</u> Such a plan must be comprehensive (not just applying to buildings), and it should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Concrete plans to electrify all new school buses and all district vehicles.- Power current and new schools with solar technology and battery storage.- Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat

pumps.

- Creating green schoolyards that increase shade and reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces & create a barrier against flooding.

- Direction to staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.

- Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.

- Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

- Regularly invite climate leaders to appropriate forums in SCUSD.

Other school districts such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, and Denver public schools have taken action to move faster on climate change. It is time for Sacramento City Unified School District to lead the way on building a culture of resilience in and around schools.

Sincerely,

Shishpal Rawat

Sacramento

	<p>Jeanine Boyers</p>
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___Rooftop solar, including storage batteries wherever possible on all District schools and other District owned buildings

___Electric heat pumps for building heating and cooling and electric hot water heaters and a timeline for doing so

___Identification and replacement of all other gas operated equipment with electric

___Removal of asphalt from school playgrounds to reduce heat island effect and its replacement with permeable material to absorb water during heavy rains

___Addition of trees and shade structures to further reduce playground heat and make playgrounds more comfortable

___Ongoing coordinations with students, parents and other concerned community members as you develop and implement your plans

Thank-you for this opportunity to comment. I look forward to seeing the results of your planning. What you do is an integral part of making the City of Sacramento a city that can successfully reach net zero emissions from all sources within its boundaries.

Sincerely,

Karen Jacques

Sacramento

applying to buildings), and it should include:

Concrete plans to electrify all new school buses and all district vehicles.

Power current and new schools with solar technology and battery storage.

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Creating green schoolyards that increase shade and reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces & create a barrier against flooding.

Direction to staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.

Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.

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Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting

October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Nico Novick
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4

Comment: Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,

My name is Nico Novick and I am a community member member in Sacramento.

On Thursday, October 5th, you will be voting on resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon- neutral goals and guidelines for SCUSD buildings to be carbon neutral by 2045.

While this is a positive first step, we need to do more and f3(tep,4i8reW* nBT/F1 11.52 fa7

powered equipment.

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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Patricia Suleiman
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4

Comment: Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,

My name is Patricia Suleiman and I am a community member in Sacramento.

On Thursday, October 5th, you will be voting on resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon- neutral goals and guidelines for SCUSD buildings to be carbon neutral by 2045.

While this is a positive first step, we need to do more and faster to combat the risks of climate change. We ask that the District follow the lead of SMUD and aim for a goal of becoming a carbon-free district by 2030. The world is still falling short of our climate change goals. Later may be too late. We must create healthy, climate-resilient, and sustainable school facilities NOW.

We are seeing unprecedented ocean temperatures, wildfires, catastrophic heat waves, flooding, pandemics, crop failures, and species extinction. The earth is likely to cross critical tipping points for global warming in the next decade, and we must make an immediate and drastic shift away from fossil fuels to prevent the planet from overheating dangerously beyond that level. We must act to protect the health, safety, & future of our children.

We ask that SCUSD declare a climate emergency now and adopt plans to ensure our schools are carbon-fre

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Direction to staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.

Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.

Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

Other school districts such as San Diego Unified, Miami-Dade, Portland, and Denver public schools have taken action to move faster on climate change. It is time for Sacramento City Unified School District to lead the way on building a culture of resilience in and around schools.

Sincerely,

Patricia Suleiman

Sacramento City Unified School District

4. Begin the process of planting one

7. Florida water reached a record 101 degrees, or jacuzzi temperature (summer 2023).
8. Antarctic sea ice fell to its lowest extent on record and the melting of some European
on phys.org by Marlow Hood)
9. In 2023 we saw unprecedented flooding in Vermont, Spain, Japan Greece, China and Turkey. Record breaking floods displaced over 30 million people in Pakistan, caused over 1700 deaths and wrecked over a million homes in 2022.

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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name: Anara Guard

**Sacramento City Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting**

October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Chris Brown
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4

Comment: Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,
My name is Chris Brown and I am a parent and community member in Sacramento. I also represent the Sacramento Climate Coalition, 367 local organizations that support local governments adopting and implementing climate emergency plans.

Tonight, you will be voting on resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon-neutral goals and guidelines for SCUSD buildings to be carbon neutral by 2045.

This is simply not fast enough in view of the rapid changes that are happening in our climate. September temperatures this year and the previous two have been those historically appropriate for July. We have experienced extremes

- Power current and new schools with solar technology and battery storage. [Inflation](#)

Sacramento City Unified School District
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October 5, 2023 Written Public Comments

Name:	Ali Doerr Westbrook
School:	N/A
Agenda Item #	9.4
Comment:	<p>Dear School Board Members & Superintendent,</p> <p>My name is Ali Doerr Westbrook and I am a community member in Sacramento.</p> <p>Tonight you will be voting on resolution #9.4 regarding adopting carbon-neutral goals and guidelines for SCUSD buildings to be carbon-neutral by 2045.</p> <p>While this is a positive first step, we need to do more and faster to combat the risks of climate change. We ask that the District follow the lead of SMUD and aim for the goal of becoming a carbon-free district by 2030. The world is still falling short of our climate change goals. Later may be too late. We must create healthy, climate-resilient, and sustainable school facilities NOW.</p> <p>We are seeing unprecedented ocean temperatures, wildfires, catastrophic heat waves, flooding, pandemics, crop failures, and species extinction. The earth is likely to cross critical tipping points for global warming in the next decade, and we must make an immediate and drastic shift away from fossil fuels to prevent the planet from overheating dangerously beyond that level. We must act to protect the health, safety, & future of our children.</p> <p>We ask that SCUSD declare a climate emergency now and adopt plans to ensure our schools are carbon-free by 2030. Such a plan must be comprehensive (not just applying to buildings), and it should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Concrete plans to electrify all new school buses and all district vehicles.Power current and new schools with solar technology and battery storage.Upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to electric heat pumps.Creating green schoolyards that increase shade and reduce the presence of asphalt and other impervious surfaces & create a barrier against flooding.Direction to staff to purchase only electric equipment when replacing fossil-fuel-powered equipment.

Engage with students and the public to craft a climate policy that achieves carbon neutrality by 2030.

Fund a study on what it would take to get us to carbon-free by 2030.

radual. We need to take immediate responsibility for long inaction.

We do not have 22 years. Already irreversible damage has taken place. Our children will unquestionably live in a less hospitable world than we have. Weather systems will continue to change and become more extreme. Our world is heating, and our oceans are acidifying. Tipping points are bearing down on us.

But we can still mitigate the damage as a consequence of our procrastination.

Please make future generations a priority. If we, who dedicate our careers to serving children, will not show the needed courage to decisively act on their behalf, who will?

Please take the action necessary to make this district carbon-free by 2030.

Let's mean it.

and the world on a whole different track, and we would have been so much further ahead than we are. It has cost the