

**TRANSCRIPT OF NOVEMBER 3, 2021
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

BARKE: Welcome everyone. Could we start with roll call, please?

SISAVATH: Trustee Gomez?

GOMEZ: Present.

SISAVATH: Trustee Barke?

BARKE: Here.

SISAVATH: Trustee Williams?

WILLIAMS: I am here.

SISAVATH: Trustee Sparks?

SPARKS: Here.

WILLIAMS: I will make a motion to adopt today's agenda with the understanding that item number six; Mr. Johnson will be presenting a video on the basics and will be joining us virtually closer to the end of the meeting. You have to give a second.

BARKE: I will second that. All those in favor?

SPARKS, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: Any opposed? All right, passes 4-0. Are there any public comments related to the closed session?

BOYD: There are no public comments related to closed session.

BARKE: Okay, then we will go into closed session now.

**[THE BOARD GOES INTO CLOSED SESSION AND THEN RETURNS TO OPEN
SESSION]**

BARKE: All right, we are back. Welcome everyone. You are going to introduce?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, yeah. It's my pleasure. As we begin our board meeting today to introduce the pastor, the community expert, the well-respected clinician in Orange County here in the Tustin, Orange, Anaheim Hills community. Dr. Martin Eaton, I will share with you is an incredible human being. He has some beautiful children from his wife, and they're all growing up. He is a clinical psychologist practicing adolescent and child psychiatry, excuse me not

psychiatry, psychology here in Orange County. He is a personal friend and still holds an appointment at Calvary Chapel as a pastor, assistant pastor, associate pastor. For our invocation, which is a part of our protocol, you may stand, you may not wish to stand, but we're going to ask Dr. Martin Eaton to come to the podium here and to share his words of wisdom and his prayer. Then, we'll have the Pledge of Allegiance after that.

EATON: Great, thank you. I'm just going to say a few words. Good evening, we live in extraordinary times, more division, strife, and pain than ever before. Yet in these unprecedented challenges, we have a God who wants to “shama” with his people. Implying that he not only hears, but is present with our suffering and personally desires to intercede. I may not know what the future holds, but at least I know who holds my future. The invitation to all is to shama with God, to surrender all your cares to him, because he cares for you. Women and men in the Bible and in history have heard from God. Sacrificed their comforts and wills to do extraordinary things for and with God because they shama. They heard, but they also obeyed God's voice. People like Mother Teresa, Susan B. Anthony, Rosa Parks, Joan of Arc, Fanny Crosby, Sojourner Truth, Amy Carmichael, Corrie Ten Boom, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Jim Elliot, Nate Saint, Eric Liddell, C.S. Lewis, Billy Sunday, Billy Graham. Even Chuck Norris who never surrenders, surrenders to God by his testimony. Noah, Abraham, David, Daniel, Jeremiah, John the Baptist, Peter, Paul, and Mary came to a point that their faith in God required them to shama. My prayer for you is not only to know about God, but to really know his heart, his character, his greatness. To do great things for and with God, because you first shama. Surrender to God.

For those who wish, you can bow your heads as I pray by reading the scriptures Ephesians 3:14-21. Let's pray. For this reason, I bow my knees before the father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named. That according to the riches of his glory, he may grant you Orange County Board of Education and you Dr. Al Mijares to be strengthened with power through his spirit in your inner beings so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. That you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth, and length, and height, and depth; and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. That you, Orange County Board of Education and Dr. Al Mijares may be filled with all fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all we can ask or think according to the power that works within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Thank you.

GOMEZ: Please join me in the flag salute. Sorry, [inaudible]. Please begin.

BOARD AND AUDIENCE: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

GOMEZ: Thank you very much.

BARKE: Next, I am going to do something a little special. I'm going to call Tim Shaw up to the podium to say a few words.

SHAW: Good evening, President Barke and honored board and, Dr. Mijares and everyone. My name is Tim Shaw. I was the 4th District Trustee until about 48 hours ago. I unfortunately had to resign. I wanted to read a quick statement for the record and for the public here.

I've served on the La Habra City Council from 2008 until the present. When I was asked to consider running for the Orange County Board of Education, my first question was, "Could I serve on the Board of Education and the City Council at the same time?" It appeared to me at the time that the answer was yes, as others had served simultaneously on the Board of Education and a city council.

The Fair Political Practices Commission provides ethics training to City Council members that includes a section on "incompatible offices," which I closely examined. The FPPC training states an individual may not hold two offices where there is "a significant clash of loyalties." That's the exact word, significant clash of loyalties between the two offices. Clearly there are no "significant clash of loyalties" between the La Habra City Council and the Board of Education in the normal understanding of those words.

However, I continued my due diligence. Before filing for the Board of Education, I informed the Orange County Registrar of Voters that I was a La Habra City Councilmember. They advised me that I could indeed run for the Board of Education. Subsequently, in November of 2020, in that election and seeking re-election to the La Habra City Council. I brought the issue before the La Habra City Clerk who made no objection to my serving at both agencies. After all, others have held the City Council and Board of Education positions concurrently. Elected officials are also taught to recuse themselves when there does exist a conflict of interest related to a decision on which they need to deliberate and vote. If ever an issue arose where there was a conflict, I planned on recusing myself from the deliberation.

I was elected to Orange County Board of Education in March of 2020, and re-elected to the La Habra City Council in November of 2020. In January of this year of 2021, I received an unexpected legal challenge that claimed I could not simultaneously serve on both the Board of Education and the La Habra City Council. In the legal documents, the plaintiff was not able to cite a single issue or vote I made where my loyalties to either office had been compromised in the eight months I had served in both offices. In fact, there had not been a single issue where the two positions ever came into conflict with each other; not even close.

However, they appeal to the Attorney General of California, and the plaintiff was forced to create improbable hypotheticals where my loyalties could possibly be brought into conflict. In presenting these hypotheticals, the plaintiff and their attorney demonstrated, in my opinion, a profound misunderstanding of the duties and responsibilities of the County Board of Education.

I could have litigated this question of incompatible offices, but this required hiring an attorney. A trial like this could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Additionally, the plaintiff's attorney demanded that their attorney fees be paid by me. The financial exposure and risks to my family was simply too great to go through with the litigation. Therefore, I am making the difficult decision to resign from the Board of Education rather than incur the financial hardship of litigating this matter.

I would like to thank the voters of the 4th District for the opportunity they gave me to serve on the Orange County Board of Education. My colleagues on the board are thoughtful, hardworking, and well-intentioned public servants. I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity to have served students and families of Orange County.

I was able to support charter schools during my service and advocated for school choice generally. I am proud of the great work our charter schools are bringing to the educational environment of Orange County. I was able to hear numerous inter-district transfer requests. I'm thankful our board has a history of empowering families and making informed educational decisions for themselves and their children. Although I'm resigning from the Orange County Board of Education, I will continue to be a friend and supporter of the good work they do on behalf of the students and families of Orange County. My most high regards.

I wanted to also thank the great staff here at the Department for their kindness and welcoming me on board when I got elected and working with me. Renee lets me call her every once in a while. I rant and yell at her, but she's very patient in listening to me. Nina, Darou, Beckie, Mari, Ken, Lisa, Al, it has been a pleasure to work with you. I don't want to leave out our attorneys, Jonathan and Greg over there who are excellent. Jeff, thank you for letting me be around. Hopefully, I contributed. I did my best. With that, I'm going to go watch the hockey game. Goodnight.

BARKE: Well, I knew I should have spoken before him, because now it's much harder to speak. I'm so disappointed. It's hard for me to express. I really didn't know Tim Shaw when he joined the board. I'd heard good things about him. I knew people who knew him, but I really didn't know him. I have gotten to know him over the last, I guess year and a half. Has it been? He's an exemplary team member, team player, a public servant. He always considers families, and students, and parental rights, and what's best for everybody. I will just miss him an incredibly amount. I'm not sure what to say other than, Tim, I miss you already. We'll continue to miss you, and I'm very sorry. I'd like to now open it up if any other board members have comments.

SPARKS: I would just like to echo that. I got a little teary-eyed, which is kind of unusual for me. You kind of struck a tear for me. I think I'm also very disappointed that this had to sort of play out the way it did. I want to just thank you for your service. It's been such a joy working with you the last several months. I guess almost a year now, oh, wow. Yeah. With all the fireworks that we get to deal with every month. Thank you for your service.

BARKE: Anyone else? Beckie?

WILLIAMS: Go ahead, Beckie.

GOMEZ: I've had the opportunity to talk with Tim privately over the past week or so. It's unfortunate that has all happened. You know how I feel. We've had an opportunity to talk. I just want to thank you for your service. Being a public servant is always a challenge. It's unfortunate that you had to face this challenge. I wish you good luck, and thank you again for your service.

WILLIAMS: Tim, likewise, we love you. You've done an incredible job supporting the parents, and the rights of parents to direct the upbringing of their children, as well as educational choice charter schools. With the consensus and agreement by the board, I would like to make the motion that the Executive Committee works with council and staff to post the protocols for the appointment for this trustee four area. Is there a consensus amongst us? We have 60 days apparently from the time of the resignation. We're going to be working on that with council and the staff.

BARKE: Does that need a motion?

WILLIAMS: No, it's just a consensus.

BARKE: I consent.

SPARKS: I consent.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

GOMEZ: That'll be on the next agenda then, too?

WILLIAMS: Well the posting we'll have to figure out, you know, the dates and times and when we can meet. It will probably be a special meeting I would assume.

GOMEZ: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

BARKE: Greg, do you have any comments you want to make?

ROLEN: I miss him as much as everybody.

BARKE: All right, Jonathan?

BRENNER: Same.

BARKE: All right.

WILLIAMS: Introductions.

BARKE: Are there any introductions?

BOYD: There are no introductions at this meeting.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: I'll make the motion for the approval of the Minutes from the October 6th, 2021, meeting.

BARKE: I'll second that. All those in favor?

GOMEZ, BARKE, WILLIAMS, SPARKS: Aye.

BARKE: Passes 4-0.

WILLIAMS: We go to public comments.

BARKE: We are going to start with public comments.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Public comments, there is no there is no number given. I'm going to call two names. The first person who I will call will be the one who would come to the podium to speak, and the other individual will be on deck to speak. The first person will be Natalie Thach from Anaheim. On deck is Andrea Schmidt from Costa Mesa.

NATALIE: Hi everyone. My name is Natalie Thach, and I am from Anaheim. I have two sisters in the Anaheim Union High School District, and I myself graduated from the same district. I also have a brother in the Magnolia School District. I'm here today because the Orange County Board of Education redistricting process has lacked transparency from the beginning. They have made no effort to engage with the public or the community, or have a public forum. Per the California Fair Maps Act, you are required to hear public feedback through every step of the process. So far, there has been no space or time made for that. The maps presented today were drawn without feedback from the community. We demand a public review, multiple community forums, and time to allow the community to introduce our own proposals that are fair, compact, and avoid unnecessary gerrymandering. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Thank you, Natalie. Next up is Andrea Schmidt. On deck is Billie Joe Wright.

ANDREA: Okay. Hi. Hi everybody. My name is Andrea Schmidt. I am a resident of Costa Mesa. I'm also here about redistricting just because the lack of transparency around the Orange County Board of Education's redistricting process has been extremely troubling. Up until today, the board has made no effort to engage the public in the process, unlike your counterparts on the County Board of Supervisors who have had an extremely thorough and transparent process. As I'm sure you all know, the California Fair Maps Act does require public input at every step of the process. Thus far, there has been no space or time allocated for that input. The maps presented today or technically I guess, on Friday when you released them, were drawn without any public comment or community feedback. Today I am here along with my fellow concerned citizens to demand a public review period, multiple community forums, and time to allow the community to introduce our own proposals that are fair, compact, and avoid unnecessary gerrymandering. Thank you for hearing me out. I hope now, as we move forward through the redistricting process you all will consider your constituents best interest without political interference. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Andrea. Next up, Billie Joe Wright. And after that, we'll be Libby Frolichman.

BILLIE: Good evening, Board of Education. My name is Billy Joe Wright. I'm a high school government and economics teacher that lives in Anaheim. I'm here tonight to speak on Agenda items six and seven. It is often said quote, "Hiding the truth is the same as telling a lie. Be open, honest, and tell everything. If you have to hide it, you shouldn't be doing it in the first place." The Orange County Board of Education's redistricting process has lacked transparency from the beginning. The Orange County Board of Education has made no effort to engage the public or have a public forum. Out of respect to the students and teachers in Orange County, out of respect to the parents and community members who are responsible for you being in those seats. I'm here to ask you to please follow the law. Please show respect to the communities that you represent.

The California Fair Maps Act requires you to hear public input at every step of the process, which you have failed to do. So far, there has been no opportunity allocated for this input. What are you trying to hide? The maps presented today were drawn without public comment or community feedback. Shame on you if you continue this sham of a process. We are here to demand a public review period, multiple community forums, and time to allow the community to introduce our own proposals that are fair, compact, and avoid unnecessary gerrymandering. I am asking each of you to operate with integrity. Our students need to see more integrity being modeled, not more people trying to play politics of disrespect with their future. You often profess ideas of freedom. Several of you often use the idea of freedom as a badge of honor, but do your actions exemplify what you profess? Have your actions around the redistricting maps been honorable, respectful of what freedom and democracy means? Have you operated with integrity? I would like for you to consider one of my favorite quotes by Mr. Ziglar, quote "Integrity gives you real freedom, because you have nothing to fear since you have nothing to hide" end quote. Please make this process transparent, respect your students and voters, and hold public forums for input. Basically, please operate with integrity. Thank you for all you do every time you come here, because I know it's hard work. Thank you, and good night.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Wright. Libby is next, and after Libby will be Jeanne Lepowsky.

LIBBY: Hello, my name is Libby Frolichman. I live in Fountain Valley, and I'm the parent of two children. I'm here today, because I have been waiting to see proposed redistricting maps for the Board of Education. In accordance with the California Fair Maps Act, I have seen proposed maps for all the layers of government that represent me except for this one. Maps for all those districts have been drawn with input from the community and are being considered and commented on by the public in accordance with the law. This board is finally airing its proposed maps for the first time a few days ago. As far as I'm aware, have been drawn without any public comment or community review.

The agenda doesn't include any rationale for these particular proposals. However, in proposal two, it seems that all of the incumbents live barely inside the proposed district, which certainly seems odd. I also wonder what happened to proposal one since we were only seeing number two and number three. Are there more proposals that are not being shown publicly? With so many

questions and a law to comply with, I respectfully request that the board allow for an appropriate review period, multiple community forums, and allow the community to propose their own maps for due consideration. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Thank you, Libby. Up next is Jeanne and then Jenny Golden.

JEANNE: I'm Jeanne Lepowsky. I live in Laguna Woods, California. I'm a former teacher, and a parent, and a grandparent. I'm very concerned about education and our public schools. I am concerned also about fairness and transparency in our elections. I'm concerned about making sure that voters can trust the people they elect. When there is no transparency, that's when trust goes away. I won't make the same points my colleagues have already made here. I am simply here to reiterate that there should be a public review period. There should be additional meetings to discuss the maps, and potential maps, and opportunities to make modifications as may be appropriate based on public comments. The community should be able to have input. The community should be able to participate in this political process. Thank you for all you do.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Jeanne. Next up is speaker number six, Jenny Golden. After that, it will be Harumi. We should probably give you the option. You can wait until the actual item is going to be on the Agenda, or you can speak now during public comment.

JENNY: I will speak now.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

JENNY: If that's all right with you, I'll take off my mask while I speak So you can see my face. My name is Jenny Golden. I live in Tustin. The first thing I want to do is express some appreciation for the last year and a half, two years of the board's, COVID safety precautions in the face of a lot of parental pressure. You have kept the students, and you have kept the community safe, and I appreciate that. Particularly since, there's been a lot of politicization against this unnecessary level of political input. I also want to very importantly, support the current curriculum.

It's extremely important for our democracy that we have an educated electorate and of course that starts at school. Not only do we teach our children rote facts, but how to evaluate facts. It's very important that they're able to look at ideas, and theories, and opinions, and be able to sort through them intelligently and without emotion. I support the current curriculum, and I urge you to continue your stance in support of the local school boards that do the same thing. Thank you very much.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Jenny. Next up is speaker number seven, Harumi. You have indicated you'd like to talk about board agenda items six and seven. You may wait until we actually get to them, or you may speak now.

HARUMI: I speak now. Hi, my name is Harumi, and I agree with all previous speakers that there is no transparency in redistricting process. They are not engaging the public. I only found out today about the proposal maps. I couldn't find it anywhere on the internet or on the website.

There was no opportunity for the public to be engaged, or comments, or map proposals by the community. This is unacceptable. There should be multiple community forums and engage the community to participate. That said, I live in the city of Cypress for over 30 years. The city of Cypress has always been part of District number two for as long as I remember. This time with all the proposals they were being gutted out. Our city of Los Alamitos, Rossmoor, and Cypress, they are pretty much together. It's three cities in one city. We are always- it's pretty much- it's just like one community. Even our kids in the city of Cypress go to Los Alamitos school and vice versa. They should not be separated. I'm very upset about that. I want my city of Cypress to go back to District 2 where it belongs. This is not acceptable. Thank you very much.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Harumi. Next up is speaker number eight. It looks like Clare. You may take the podium. You may speak now or wait until the item actually comes up. That's up to you.

CLARE: [Inaudible].

WILLIAMS: Okay. Yeah. Go ahead.

CLARE: Hi, good evening. The Orange County Board of Education members. Thank you for giving me a chance to speak here. I'm a resident of Cypress, but my boy in Los Alamitos High. For me, it's kind of like if you, you know, divide Cypress to part of the, you know, map district number four. It's totally, you know, tear my life apart. In my point of view is Cypress, Los Alamitos, Rossmoor it's not just to next together. We share the same family values and their culture, traditional cultures. Most of the time, we just don't feel any difference within this big community. For me, I always go to shop in Rossmoor to go grocery shopping in Sprouts. Also, you know, grab my [inaudible] snacks there.

I have no idea why this proposal comes out for, you know, separate Cypress from Los Alamitos and Rossmoor. I just sincerely wish you can consider put them together. These three cities are sister cities. It has been one big community for last half centuries. For me, I just don't know how to, you know, express my deep concern. I wish you can listen to the residents in these three cities and make these three cities united as one. Thank you so much.

WILLIAMS: Very good. Thank you, Clare. Moving on, to speaker number nine, Danielle Tanner and up on deck is Kahanah Swift.

DANIELLE: Hello, thank you for the opportunity. My name is Danielle. I have two children, and we're currently in the Irvine District. I'm here today in honor of my son and the rest of the children who face the vaccine mandates in order to go to school. Every day I wonder if I'm going to wake up from this bad dream. I received an email from my son's school that parents are no longer allowed on campus unless we are vaccinated. Policies such as that continue to divide us when we should not be fighting each other. We are not fighting against the legacy of vaccines. We are not anti-immunology. The fight is against medically mandating a free country when it is not necessary for some or proven safe yet. Dr. Eric Rubin from the FDA states, "We are never going to learn how safe the vaccine is unless we start giving it. That's just the way it goes." He's talking about our children as if they are guinea pigs.

BARKE: There is some Kleenex there if you need it.

DANIELLE: Thank you. Please help us fight against this. Please help us in protecting our children and their future. My son will be devastated if he cannot return to school after everything that they've been through the last couple of years. They don't deserve it. This is the United States of America where people fight every day to live here to be free. Help us keep it that way. Freedom over fear. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Danielle. We have Kahanah Swift at the podium and after Kahanah will be Michelle Ramelot.

KAHANAH: I'm, Kahanah, it's very hard to say. I'm used to it. I represent the North OC parents. I was educated K-12 in the public-school district. I'm a mom of five, a former public-school teacher, and I have loved and served the public-school district. I'm standing here before you today to ask you to stand up for our kids in Orange County to encourage our school districts to reject formally this vaccine mandate. They are asking our kids to be injected with an experimental shot that does not even stop the disease. The coercion and bullying to get this shot hurts our kids. We are no longer in an emergency. If you look at the data for the children that are dying from this, and I'm not saying that every life is not precious, they are. That's why I say that the vaccine mandate needs to stop.

There is more risk to harming the children with this unresearched shot and forcing our kids to choose between the schools and teachers that they love and taking the shot against better judgment to attend public school. It's wrong. You will not only be losing involved, invested, and supportive families from the public school when we pull our kids out and school them alternatively, but wonderful teachers that we all love. That being said, our districts are telling us that they have no choice. That they have to accept the mandate. They are washing their hands of this and dismissing our concerns by saying that they cannot do anything. Who will be there to represent the students and parents that want to have a choice whether or not to give the shot to our kids? We would like to know, is this true? Do the districts really have no voice? Does this decision have anything to do with accepting that the relief funds? We don't know. We can't get a clear answer. We can't find the truth.

On behalf of myself and hundreds of other concerned Orange County parents, we urge you to intervene to speak to the state, to speak to the health department, the school districts, or whoever needs to be addressed on behalf of the many concerned parents that do not want to give their kids the jab. We don't know what to do. We don't know where to send our letters. We don't know where to send our phone calls. If somehow you could advise us in some way, we will put our energy there. We are not here to be a pain in the butt to anybody. We just want to protect our kids and do what's right for our families. Thank you so much.

BARKE: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Kahanah. For the record, this board did pass their opposition to vaccine mandates earlier this year.

MICHELLE: I just want to echo. I'll just piggyback off of my colleague's statements, but I am so thankful for that. I continue to be so thankful for our county through this whole situation. It has been comforting to know that we as Orange County citizens have boards, and members, and people in service who stand up for our basic freedoms at the end of the day. Yes, we've had extreme circumstance. Everyone is doing their best to navigate these interesting times. Everyone should be allowed to make their own choice. Just as if they feel better being at home, they should be able to be home. If you want to go to school, you should be able to go to school. The idea of an experimental shot being mandated is shocking to me, and I continue to be perplexed over this. I would just urge the board to continue to stand firm and uphold our basic rights from, you know, the top tier of the government down and not be bullied by whatever this coming out of Sacramento these days. I didn't come here very prepared. I did not intend to speak. I have my children. I am grossly mis-underprepared here. I don't have a lot of statistics. I know that they're out there. We have so much data right now showing the negative effects of this shot, which is not even classified as a vaccine per the CDC's classifications. It's an experimental gene therapy. We have the data regarding the rise of myocarditis in juveniles right now. Blood clots in juveniles, in children. There is no reason for this shot to be mandated for any child for anything.

The minute the government is stepping in between myself and my child, we have huge problems. It's just like Kahanah was saying it's startling, because we don't know where else to turn these days. I just am here to voice my opposition to any incoming pressures. We know that it will come. Sacramento has not reversed themselves on this steam roll of a year. Remain firm and uphold the values of Orange County where we all get along wonderfully, and have all sorts of backgrounds, religions, ethnicities. I just would like to see that continue without more divisive mandates coming down in the future. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Michelle. Next up is Tobrea Richardson from Westminster. Michelle, you did a great job. Those words were felt and appreciated.

TOBREA: Hi. Thank you. Thank you, Board for giving me the chance to share my heart with you today. Sorry. My name is Tobrea Richardson, and I'm an Orange County mom. I'm asking you to please continue to fight for us, for our families, and for our children; for the right to make medical decisions for our own children without government interference. We all know how incredibly low risk children are from dying, or being hospitalized, or seriously ill from COVID-19. As of today, from the Orange County Healthcare Agency, there are 198 total COVID-19 patients in all of Orange County. This vaccine is too new to be given to children, and there are not enough long-term studies for me as a mom to be comfortable to give it to my child.

My second concern is over the mask exemption policy currently being implemented by the state of California. My son has been given a mask exemption by a licensed psychologist. However, I've been told by our school, our district, the board that they will not honor it because it is a licensed psychologist, not an M.D., a D.O., or a nurse practitioner. While I understand people are following the procedures that are put in place, the one size fits all policy is currently at the severe detriment of my child. As of now, it feels there's no concern for the expertise of a licensed mental health professional. I know this is not your personal belief. You had Dr. Eaton come and speak today, which we value his opinion.

However, my child is going to sleep every night with anxiety as a seven-year-old about not being able to breathe in his classroom the next day. I am heartbroken. There's been no response to emails, phone calls, anything other than, "This is the state mandate. We can do nothing else." You're all in such a fantastic position of power. You have a responsibility to use your voice and I know you have, and we appreciate it. As parents here today, we urge you to continue to fight for us because your voices will be heard where ours won't, so, thank you. Please allow us our God given right as parents to choose what's best for our children. We appreciate your fight. We urge you and beg you to continue to fight for us. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: We have two last speakers here who wanted to talk on agenda item number six. We are actually going to be getting to that agenda item in probably about 5-10 minutes. Mr. Henry and Mr. Montez, you are welcome to speak now, or you can wait until we actually get to the agenda item. It's up to you, sir.

MONTEZ: [Inaudible]

WILLIAMS: Mr. Janet, excuse me, Mrs. Janet Henry and Art Montel, you are the last two speakers that have requested public comments. Okay, Mr. Montel you're on deck there, sir.

MONTEZ: It is pronounced Montez. You probably couldn't read my writing.

BARKE: That is a Z.

WILLIAMS: Oh, that's a Z. It looked like an L. Sorry.

MONTEZ: That is okay.

WILLIAMS: Montez.

MONTEZ: I wanted to take the opportunity now to thank Mr. Shaw for his service. I've served on a school board since '98. I've had the pleasure of working with some of your people here with Mr. Mijares and others. This is a unique board. You guys were both the CEO of the county in education and the board both are equally elected. I worked with Mr. Shaw and the redistricting on the Board of Supervisors. Now, I've been working with redistricting since 1981. This has been against democratic governors, speakers, Republicans, and others. I think there's idiots on both sides of the aisle. There is incompetency and thieves and such. You're probably one of the few elected bodies I've seen "In God We Trust." I saw this speaking to the speaker. Coming from a family of half the family is ministers and evangelists.

We always look at keeping, you know, the wolves away from the least of our flock, which is the children. Given that you have to look at the community of interest in this county. I'm here to speak on behalf of MALDEF Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, LULAC, and Southwest Voter Registration. If you Google your [inaudible] or any of the other legal things you're going to find us as the plaintiffs. If you look at the Mendez case, you're going to find us the plaintiffs. If you look at some of the other cases, you will find us the plaintiffs. If you look at the cases that we're working on now, you will find us as the plaintiffs on voting rights and such. I

could sit here and bring in 42 other organizations. I found in the past that doesn't really help in swinging a lot of interest, because greed and ambition seem to overpower everything. You are, and I need to notify you if Al hasn't notified you, or if legal counsel hasn't notified you. I want to thank Al and his staff for providing us some of the data. It's available to the public, which deals with the reduced lunch programs impacted by the LCAP monies and the entitlement programs. That data can be found. You can see those communities of interest. You represent the two largest Latino communities. One, the youth, which you have Santa Ana and Anaheim separately are the two largest cities in the nation with youth. When you look at some of the largest school districts, you are looking at Santa Ana. You are looking at Anaheim. You are looking at those districts. I should and I think you guys have an obligation to look at those data of where those schools are located.

That'll give you the cluster and the percentages of what the map should look like. In the past, these maps were redistricted following the county lines. Hoping that we would not come back and sue you. Now, we have filed complaints back 10 years ago. Those complaints were heard. We've met with the lawyers over the last six-seven years; with the federal lawyers in regards to this. You are named along with the County Board of Supervisors, County Board of Education, and the School Board of Anaheim Unified. We're equally, you know, both the left and the right are getting hammered in regards to their incompetency and greed when it comes to a lack of transparency. Some people try to be clever by drawing maps that will meet certain percentages. You have certain areas that were drawn. I can tell you a story.

WILLIAMS: Mr. Montez.

MONTEZ: Yes, sir.

WILLIAMS: With all due respect, sir, we allow three minutes. That buzzer that you heard.

MONTEZ: I am sorry.

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

MONTEZ: I was looking at the light.

WILLIAMS: If you want to finish up what you're saying, please feel free to do that.

MONTEZ: Okay. I just want to let you know we are willing to work with you. You guys have hired a good consultant. I think you guys should make this transparent. Doug, which you've hired I believe. You should be able to have those some type of map availability for the public to be able to draw those maps and submit those maps to you. We will be submitting maps, but you know, we are just one set of maps. Somebody may have a better set of maps. I think that's what you guys have an obligation to look at. What's the best map that fits those communities? Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, sir. Janet Henry. Then after that, we have Edith Tonkon.

JANET: Good evening, Board. Good evening, all the folks that came out tonight. I know it's not very common for the common folk to come before you. It shows how important this is to us on this evening. I am going to repeat what you have already heard, because it's that important. I think sometimes when you keep hearing it and hearing it, you know. I'm here to speak about redistricting. I am here to talk about the maps and the transparency regarding the maps. I know as public servants, I was a public servant. I taught almost for 40 years down in the south county. We can get in our little bubbles. We get working. We get endeavoring. We kind of forget that we're representing people. We are working on behalf of people. I ask you to reach out to your communities. Reach out to each of your districts there.

I am sure there must be some way. I get things from Lisa Bartlett. I get things from other people that are telling me what's going on. I hope you have an avenue of saying, "Hey, Janet, come on down. Let's take a look at these maps. What do you think?" I think several people here have made some really good points. I don't live in those communities, and I'm going, wow. I'm sure you want to hear about that and know what is going on in those individual communities. Like I said, I am all the way from the south county. That's how important this issue is that we've come all the way up.

I was a teacher for almost 40 years. One of the cornerstones of our teaching in any school is fairness. No matter if it's on the playground. No matter whether it's in the debate club. No matter whether it's choosing the prom queen and king. It's all about the democratic process and what is fair, so I would beseech you to please make sure that the process that you follow is fair and open to everybody. To give you the kind of insights that you had here this evening. To make sure that these lines are drawn correctly. Thank you very much for your time.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Janet. Edith.

JANET: I don't get a [inaudible]?

WILLIAMS: We appreciate you coming here. Very good. Mrs. Edith Tonkon.

EDITH: Hi, my name is Edith Tonkon.

BOYD: Can you lower the mic? You can lower it. There you go.

EDITH: Thank you so much for letting me speak. I actually thought there were going to be a lot more people here, so I wasn't going to speak. I was just going to applaud them all. I am here about the redistricting. I live in Laguna Beach. My children went to Laguna Beach schools. I taught special ed. in Santa Ana. I think the redistricting maps are very difficult to understand, number one. I'm fairly good, it's been a long time since I used a Thomas map book, but I still find this not that easy to understand. I know there are options and there are things that are going on now. We need to have transparency so everybody knows which districts are voting for which person in the school board. All I can ask is that you consider having better options and more open so that we can all know what's going on. Then we'd have more people out here to speak on behalf. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Edith. For those who came out to talk about redistricting, that is Agenda item number six and number seven. Actually, a public hearing to hear from the public so that ends the public comments. Ms. President, I think we have something from closed session.

BARKE: We do. We have a report out from closed session from our good attorney Johnathan Brenner.

WILLIAMS: Next up will be Agenda item five, the Resolution. Then we'll get to six and seven, which is the redistricting.

BRENNER: Good evening, President Barke and Trustees, Superintendent Mijares. This is the read out, or report out for closed session items one and two. The board conducted a discussion with counsel as to both closed sessions and took no action, except under closed session item number one. That was to approve Epstein, Becker, and Green's invoice number 1065091. The vote was three in favor. President Barke, Vice-President Williams, and Trustee Sparks voting in favor. Trustee Gomez voting against. That's the report out for the closed sessions. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you. Quickly. Are there any charter submissions?

BOYD: Yes. We have received two charter petitions. Orange County Classical Academy II is a county wide petition that has been submitted. Oxford Prep has submitted a material revision, so we will get those scheduled on the board's agenda. Okay. All right. Moving to number five, Dr. Williams.

WILLIAMS: I will make the motion to approve the Resolution.

AUDIENCE: [Inaudible]

WILLIAMS: You have a public comment?

AUDIENCE: [Inaudible] Item number five.

WILLIAMS: Oh, excuse me. As we get to item number five, you will have an opportunity. I promise you.

BARKE: We are at five.

WILLIAMS: Yeah, right. We have Lynne Riddle who will be up. Then Kelly, you will be second. Once the motion's made, then we'll take public comments.

BARKE: Okay. Okay. I will second your motion.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Going to go into public comments on item number five. The good Lynne Riddle will be up first. Then Kelly, you will be second.

LYNNE: I'm Lynne Riddell. I'm addressing your Resolution Opposing Tyranny of the United States Government Intimidation of its Citizens. This resolution is objectionable, nasty, and wrong. It's factually erroneous, communally malicious, and infectiously incendiary. No sensible person could find even a scintilla of truth or critical thinking reflected anywhere within it. For those reasons, it must be firmly opposed by every thoughtful person in our county. While the resolutions title is gut wrenching. Your introductory paragraph boldly says that "The Department of Justice is committed to using its authority and resources to discourage public discourse." Nothing in any fair reading of the Garland Memorandum or the DOJ's press release supports your claim. This fetish resolution is rife with mischaracterizations about our public schools and their curriculum. It takes a sneering aim at ethnic studies saying that our schools have, and I quote, "progressively become politically correct, and woke, and have elevated political correctness over academics."

Their woke-like curricula, you say, contains racism, Critical Race Theory, Marxism, social justice, politics, and culturally inappropriate sexual and health education curricula. That's purely false, demeaning, baseless, political rhetoric. Sensible residents of our county have a right to expect better from you. I have to ask. When did you forget that you were elected to serve in a nonpartisan manner in the best interest of our public schools? As a lawyer, a former member of the federal justice system, I'm livid at your meritless accusations leveled at Attorney General Garland and the Department of Justice. Your resolution seeks to discredit and undermine a respected and essential governmental agency.

Worse, in doing so, you call into question in fact you ridicule the lives and the values of those who serve in them; who go to work every day as noble, dedicated public servants. As a former classroom teacher, and a professor of education, I'm enraged that the Resolution appears to cast doubt upon, minimize, and in fact, again, ridicule servants of our public schools' family who have been targeted. Placed in states of anxiety and fear for their school colleagues, their families, and their children. Worse yet, your resolution reflects not one wit of care or concern about further harmful incitement. You have to know that arising from all of your resolution's disrespect, there will be future violence against our local school board members, administrators, teachers, and even students. I urge you to withdraw this thoughtless and this harmful resolution. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Very good. Up next is Kelly.

KELLY: Hello, good evening. I'm here tonight in support of Dr. William's proposal of opposing tyranny, intimidation of United States Citizens by the National School Boards Association. I agree with Dr. William's proposal that our membership should be revoked from the National School Boards Association. We should follow 21 other states exiting or distancing ourselves from the NSBA. The overreach of the government on local matters has been a growing problem in our communities. The voice of the parents need to be heard as their civil liberties are protected and allowed to address school elected school boards and appointed superintendents. School board meetings should be a place of communication, discourse, and productive decision-making for the betterment of students. The NSBA cannot apologize their way out of labeling concerned parents as domestic terrorists and do not deserve our support as a county or a state. The NSBA is a frivolous, meaningless board that uses intimidation and threats to silence any parent from

speaking to their school boards about their decision-making. Parents support their local public schools financially, emotionally, and put their trust in the hands of well-qualified teachers.

Parents have every right to question decisions. When in fact science does not support mandated masks for children, nor does it support mandated experimental shots for a protected class of citizens, our children. They have every right to see new curriculum that include divisive Marxism lessons and demand answers to lies given by school board members including a school board president that said to me, there is no CRT being taught in our school district. We can demand that our schools show transparency when it comes to the accepted sex education curriculum and intersectionality policies regarding genders. We are energetic parents that will not accept anything less than honesty and transparency from our school districts. I encourage you to lead this county and our state away from the NSBA. Protect the parents from getting reported to the United States Department of Justice. It is outrageous.

We need local autonomy to preserve our open discussions and keep vigilant watch over the local boards by participating and vocalizing as much as possible. The only thing that's standing in the way of our government getting access to our kids is we the parents and you, our elected officials. We the people hold the power with our voice and our votes. The NSBA knows that there will be a mass exodus from the public-school system if these local issues are not resolved. I encourage you tonight to support the energetic parents of Orange County, Dr. Williams, and respond to the NSBA on our behalf and call out the California State Board for their lack of response. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Madam President, that is the last public comment.

BARKE: Then we'll go back to number five.

WILLIAMS: We have a motion and a second, so it's discussion amongst the board members. I'll go ahead and begin. I appreciate the differing opinions from the good judge. What I find as offensive is the collusion between the National School Boards Association, which we do not belong to anymore, the president of the United States, and the attorney general of this great nation. We have an original letter that we know that was made September 29th, which was a day before the weekend. Less than five days later, we have an attorney general attacking parents and potentially targeting them. I find that offensive. This is nonpartisan. This is defending the rights of parents to direct the upbringing of their children as well as the citizens to address vigorously if necessary this board. We've had a lot of people criticize this board. I'm okay with that. I'm a big boy.

Everything in here is written and reviewed by legal scholars. It is the sentiment of myself as well as many good, outstanding citizens, and mostly parents who are offended by what the attorney general did in collusion with the President of the United States as well as the National School Boards Association. Obviously, I wrote this, and I will be voting for it.

BARKE: I support you, and I will be voting for it. I feel very happy that we took the initiative before any of this happened. We have not paid dues to the National School Boards Association this year or last year. I think we did the right thing.

SPARKS: I concur.

BARKE: Any comments?

GOMEZ: Yes, I have comments. First of all, what resources went into writing this resolution? Ken, you indicated that you had written it yourself.

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

GOMEZ: Okay. All right. Thank you. First, I want to say that I support anyone's right to share their opinions as long as it's respectful of others and whether I like the content or not, or whether the facts are accurate. The first paragraph of this resolution talks about the use of resources to discourage public discourse. Yet, our own board has time and time again failed to allow public comment via teleconferencing. We have not addressed Assembly Bill 361, which allows us to utilize teleconferencing as an option to engage the board with the public. During the pandemic, I believe that almost all of us used this option at least once during that time. The resolution allows our communities to elect local school board members to represent them. Yet, there are recalls going on throughout the county.

The third paragraph states that parents and community members have the right to appeal to, and speaking with local elected officials during local school board meetings. Again, we have failed to provide that opportunity to those attending our meetings online. The fourth paragraph talks about local representatives should provide a safe and nurturing environment. Yet, we fail to support ethnic study so children can learn about history in a safe and nurturing environment. The fifth paragraph, I agree with parents' rights to speak passionately, yet peacefully during public comment. Yet, we failed to keep control of the meeting when people are booing or clapping over another speaker. The sixth paragraph, explain what "woke" curricula is. The continual use of Critical Race Theory creates a flashpoint.

The use of that term creates more confusion for parents and even some elected officials. The seventh, eighth, and ninth paragraph discusses threats to our school board members. Look what happened in Los Alamitos earlier this year when the Sheriff's Department advised the board to hold their meeting remotely. This is also what happened to this board when a meeting was scheduled in another location to discuss ethnic studies. Paragraph 10 states we have an obligation to listen to both positive and negative feedback. Yet, this board has cutoff speakers at three minutes when it's being criticized, but lets others speak longer. Board members have often commented on public comments when it is inappropriate to do so. This is where we listen. Encouraging comments after speakers only gives the impression of what this board supports and may discourage others from speaking. If we are going to support open public discourse, then let's do it in a manner that is fair and equitable to all speakers no matter what their opinion is.

This resolution states that, quote "Free speech, especially that provided in public comment and board meetings should be revered and embraced and not condemned or oppressed by school boards." That is consistent with the U.S. Attorney General who stated, "While spirited debate about policy matters is protected under our Constitution, that protection does not extend to

threats of violence or efforts to intimidate individuals based on their views.” With that, I will oppose this resolution.

WILLIAMS: Just for the record, Beckie, we had two forums on ethnic studies. If you were listening, ethnic studies is not about learning history. I'm all for learning history. What ethnic studies was, what we learned, there is two types of ethnic studies. The original one that is critical. Then we have one that is constructive. The critical people, the person that you recommended, I can't remember her name now, who didn't show up. That group has gone on to promote the Marxism that is associated with the ethnic study law as well as Critical Race Theory, which is foundational to that law. That's what we learned. That's well documented.

Next month for this board, let me just share. We're going to have the white paper that will give us a synopsis of what was given in the testimony and what we learned.

GOMEZ: I believe I was listening, and I would hope that you would have listened to my comments as well tonight.

WILLIAMS: I did listen to them.

SPARKS: I would just add one thing. That is that the parents of a large county such as ours, where I used to live Fairfax County and Loudoun County, Virginia, are speaking loudly on this issue. California parents are speaking loudly on this issue as well. I appreciate all the points you were making, but I think parents are not being fooled by points that are being made that are not true. I will just leave it at that.

BARKE: Well, the only thing that I had disagreement on is that I think we are pretty fair about the amount of time we give to every speaker. I didn't particularly love what some people said tonight, but we didn't cut anybody off. We let everybody speak as long as they wanted.

GOMEZ: That's true tonight, but it's not always true.

BARKE: I will disagree. That's all right. We can agree to disagree.

GOMEZ: I have asked you personally to get a hold of meetings when they have been out of control, and you have declined. We can disagree about that. That's fine.

BARKE: I don't consider cheering out of control. I think that's just them expressing.

GOMEZ: When people are booing? Yes. That's not appropriate. Number one, if we're here to listen and people are clapping over or booing over speakers, we can't hear them. I've asked you to just control that a little bit so that we can hear the speakers. That is where it's frustrating, because we can't hear what they're saying. Whether I like it or not, doesn't matter. I want to hear what they have to say.

WILLIAMS: I'm not so sure the leadership of President Barke has been a compromise or been an embarrassment. She's done a very good job. It's very hard to control peoples' emotions

especially around very, very difficult and challenging issues such as we have faced head on. Issues that included the inappropriate California Healthy Youth Act with inappropriate curriculum for children that's pornographic. We've talked about Common Core, and the direction that we've headed in so far with this ethnic study curricula, which is very outlandish based upon the foundational Critical Race Theory. We've seen that. We've talked about that. We've been very fair to people coming here; talking very cordial. I think we've done fairly well overall. With that, I'll call the question if we're done discussing this.

SPARKS: I want to add one more comment. I would add that I think we've been very transparent in holding all of these various forums that we've been holding. When we hear from parents, when we hear from families about what issues you all want to hear about, you want to understand more about, we've been very responsive, as responsive as we possibly can be. I agree and concur that President Barke has run the meetings as best we can while we are sun shining a lot of these very controversial issues. I think that's our job to show leadership on those issues. We've done the very best job we can in terms of being transparent.

I'm new to all this redistricting stuff, but I know that we are going to be talking about it next. I know the people who have been working on it have been working with the consultants as much as possible to be transparent. I don't know if the supervisors got priority over this board in terms of transparency. I'm not sure. But I do know that the history of this board is to be very transparent. To insinuate that we're not being transparent on any issue, I think is disingenuous.

BARKE: The other comment I would make is that we had a lot of comments about the lack of transparency. Most of them left before the hearing. We are about to have a transparent hearing. Most of those that complained are gone, so I'm a little confused by that.

SPARKS: Yeah, Absolutely.

AUDIENCE: [Noise is heard]

BARKE: No? Okay.

SPARKS: A lot of people left. Maybe, more than half of you left.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: We are here. [Inaudible]

WILLIAMS: Okay.

GOMEZ: I got to make one last comment.

WILLIAMS: Sure.

GOMEZ: I want to be clear that I never called President Barke's leadership embarrassing. Don't put words in my mouth. I also recall. Now that you brought it up about the California Healthy Youth Act, there was a time when the audience snapped their fingers. You, Mr. Williams asked them to stop doing that. They were showing their support for speaker, and you disallowed that.

There have been times where, yes, we have not appreciated, shall we say, all of our speakers. That is all I'm saying. We need to do a better job of being consistent. That's all.

BARKE: I think that, what do you call it? Is it clicking? What is it?

GOMEZ: They were snapping their fingers.

BARKE: Snapping. I'm sorry. I think the snapping that was going on during the speaking. Most of the clapping that we're hearing now is in between. It's after a comment and we just.

GOMEZ: Not necessarily. Not necessarily.

BARKE: Oh, okay.

WILLIAMS: I think we've shown a lot of dirty laundry tonight. I'll disagree on some of the things that Beckie has said. I will call the question, so we can move on with our meeting.

BARKE: Okay. All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed?

GOMEZ: Opposed.

BARKE: Okay. Moving on to number six, Redistricting. Greg Rolan will you please join us?

WILLIAMS: Nina, are we ready to play the YouTube video? Okay.

ROLEN: Just some brief comments before Dr. Johnson's video. This is the beginning of the community input process. As soon as we got the maps, you'll hear a lot about timelines, compressed timelines, data challenges, and the like. You hear a lot about that tonight, but this is the beginning of the public input process. We have a video by Dr. Johnson who unfortunately can't be here at this time. We're trying to make him available for further questions later in the evening. Just like everybody else in the state of California these experts in demography are slammed, because every jurisdiction has to do it under this compressed timeline. We're going to try to make him available later in the evening by Zoom if possible. In light of his schedule, we prepared a video that will explain the theory and practice behind all the maps.

BARKE: Just one comment. Somehow, we didn't have one either. They commented nobody [inaudible].

[VIDEO PLAYS, BUT IT IS STOPPED.]

SPARKS: Rewind.

ROLEN: I'm sorry, Renee. On the 29th, I think of October, we provided all the maps we had available to staff and asked for them to put post them immediately. There was a miscommunication between Dr. Johnson and myself with regard to option number one that you will hear about. The staff, as soon as we were made aware of the error. We provided the staff with option number one. That was simply a snafu between myself and our consultant.

[THE VIDEO PLAYS: VOICE 1]

Good evening. I'm Doug Johnson, president of National Demographics Corporation. It's my pleasure to meet with you again even if virtually this time. I'm sorry I cannot be there in person. But as you're aware, this is an extremely busy time these days. Scheduling just got a little complicated today, but I am happy to share lots of good information with you. I think you'll be very pleased with the maps that we have to show you. First of all, as you know, the map on your current screen is your currently existing board election trustee areas. These were drawn back in 2011. They are out of population balance now. Obviously, growth has not been standard across the whole county. We now have what's described as a 27% deviation amongst the trustee areas. With Area 3 being the biggest, at almost 15% overpopulated. That's where the most growth has happened. Area 5 being the smallest at 13% underpopulated. It has of course grown over the last 10 years. It just hasn't grown as fast as the county as a whole leaving it behind the target population.

As we approach redistricting, as you're aware, it's been quite a year. The data was supposed to be out in March. The federal census data was supposed to be released in March of 2021. That data was of course delayed by COVID until mid-August. We had a five month delay there. Then the state for the first time, and an unfortunate timing situation, was going to adjust for the state prison population. The population that the Census Bureau counting the prisons, the state then reallocated to their last known home address. Now, that was supposed to take no more than four to six weeks. We get the data from the census in mid-August. Then, the state takes four to six weeks. They ended up taking five and a half weeks releasing the data September 21st. Then, when we got the data and started working with it. One of the things we quickly realized, that something was wrong with the data.

It took us a couple of days to figure out what, but we did go back to the state. The state did realize that they had some messed-up data. Then the official redistricting data corrected came out on September 27th. Unfortunately, with our quick deadline. Of course, the election date doesn't move. Our finish date doesn't move no matter how late the census data is or how late the state's data are. Unfortunately, we are now in this extremely compressed timeframe where there's not much time for the board to act, but we do have some good maps. We are very comfortable presenting. We think and hope you'll be pleased with.

As we look at balancing populations we have not only the population imbalance to deal with, but of course we have an existing map or problem. Which is, District 1 is our most heavily Latino seat. It's not majority Latino by a citizen voting age population, which is our key demographic. It's under 50% according to the Voting Rights Act data. It is also our largest Asian American district. By putting in Fountain Valley, West Santa Ana, Garden Grove, the current map splits up

the Little Saigon region into multiple districts. Then puts them together with the Latino population. In our maps, we are going to try to address this and change that around.

We have three maps for you to look at today. All three of them are similar in certain respects and then differ in kind of the outer regions. Here is Map 1, option one as it says in the legend down here. As you can see, Trustee Area 1 takes on a bit of an odd shape, but the reason for that is that Trustee Area 1 is really putting together two clear Latino communities. We have the Santa Ana and Tustin fairly densely, heavily Latino neighborhoods and communities. Obviously, Santa Ana has a long history of Latino leadership together with Anaheim, which also has a very well-established community, heavily Latino community and concentration and more recently elected Latino leadership as well. We want to put those two areas together in one trustee area to unite their voice and actually draw a trustee area that's majority Latino by citizen voting age population.

Now, that takes some unusual shapes because in the Orange, and Villa Park area, and the Anaheim Hills, we have much less Latino community. Putting those areas in would dilute that Latino vote and make that a non-majority seat. Then on the west side, we have what I tend to describe as the Little Saigon Region: Westminster, Garden Grove, Fountain Valley, and West Santa Ana in particular that we want to keep together. That's, you know, both a densely packed Vietnamese and generally Asian American community. It's also clearly a cultural center and a cultural community of interest that has many bonds within it.

In order to keep both of those very significant, important communities of interest together, we end up with a somewhat odd shape of Trustee Area 1 to make that happen, but it is contiguous. Both those trustee areas do respect communities of interest. Both of them are reasonably compact. One is really two compact pieces put together, but it does work. Both of them follow either major roads. Like the top of a Trustee Area 1 is a state highway, or for the most part this map follows city borders. When you see the part of Trustee Area 1 going up to the northeast. That's following the shape of Tustin and keeping Tustin together. We are really following the city boundaries as we draw these lines. Same thing in Area 2: Garden Grove, Stanton, Westminster, Fountain Valley, Los Alamitos all drawn together into Area 2.

As I mentioned, this map has, as do all three maps I'm going to show you, a majority Latino trustee area at 51% of citizen voting age population. We do cross that line unlike in the current map. Where the current map has Trustee Area 1 also being 30% Asian-American, this map has area 2 separate from the Latino community. We finally have two separate seats. In Area 2, it is 33% Asian American in this map. Now the other three trustee areas, Areas 3, 4, and 5, we don't have the voting rights concerns, so we are really population balancing and trying to keep communities of interest for the main part cities united and to follow recognizable borders.

You can see in this map we have Area 5 really being a coastal area. Area 3 being the southern inland area. Then Area 4 is the north county area. We do divide Orange in this map. Then Huntington Beach and Irvine just purely for population balancing reasons we had to divide so that's option one. We move on to option two. We can see here in this case, we do kind of expand Area 1. It doesn't go as far west in Anaheim. In this case, we are just getting central Anaheim, and instead pushing up into south Fullerton. That does give us the numbers to offset taking in

western Orange. Then the same areas of Santa Ana and Tustin that we had before. Again, this is still a majority Latino at 51% of CVAP or Citizen Voting Age Population Trustee Area. It is a bit more compact, but it also does divide Fullerton. We have Anaheim split so that the central part of the city is separate from the western part in this map.

We again have our Little Saigon region united. Area 2 is again a heavily Asian American seat again at 33%. Because of the different shape of Area 1, Area 4 has wrapped around and is picking up west Anaheim then going up and getting north county. Then not coming across the 91 over on the eastern side of the county. In this case, we also have more of a parallel version. Instead of three and five being inland and coastal, in this case three comes down and gets Costa Mesa. Five goes all the way to the Riverside county line. It's a different configuration of three and five. No voting rights or other considerations there, but you might consider whether you think that's a better arrangement of community interest, or whether the map 2 arrangement is a better setup.

The third map is somewhat in between the two. It is not a radical departure from those two. It goes back to the original setup of Trustee Area 1. Really, four is pretty much the same. Where this differs is three and five. In this case, five is picking up less of Irvine. It is not coming all the way to the 405. It is more of a coastal Irvine piece. Then to make up for giving up that Irvine area, it is coming up and getting Rancho Santa Margarita, the south end of the county. A third option just for consideration of the board.

One thing I do want to emphasize is that I talked about the current map is 27% off. All three of these options are perfectly balanced. Each trustee area is within one person. We are really hitting it out of the park with that. The real purpose, the primary purpose of redistricting, which is balancing the population of each trustee area. That is the express purpose stated in the Ed. Code for this process is to get those numbers close. No trustee area is off by more than one person from perfect balance. I really do go above and beyond to hit that number. We achieve our perfect population balance. We keep communities of interest together. Other than for population balancing and following highways and freeways, we are keeping cities together. We are keeping regional ties together. We are following major roads whenever we can and staying as compact as we can.

We are really hitting all those traditional and statutory redistrict requirements. Again, my apologies for not being able to be there this evening, but I think you have three very good maps before you. Option one, with the coastal five. Option two, with kind of inland to coastal areas. Five and three, and Orange, Anaheim, and Santa Ana with Tustin in Area 1. Or option three, it kind of has a coastal five, but three comes farther into Irvine. Then, the coastal five it goes up into Rancho Santa Margarita. We are back to Area 1 that's entirely Tustin, Santa Ana, and Anaheim. Look forward to your comments. I'm happy to provide any additional information after this meeting that would be useful. I hope these maps meet with your approval, at least one of them. Thank you very much. Bye-bye.

[VIDEO ENDS]

ROLEN: The board charged me with directing this process. As you can see, what we have tried to do to start the process is to give a lot of data; give a lot of justification for the trustee areas.

This is a starting point. We have to have this process completed by December 15. We are going to have a hearing right now. What my directions were to Dr. Johnson was to balance the population, comply with the Voting Rights Act, and have a contiguous Vietnamese district and a contiguous Latino district. These maps are a starting point. The presentation will give the public an opportunity to really look into the data and bring us back some maps. They have an opportunity to bring us some maps this evening, but this is a legally unassailable starting point.

If there's any questions you think I can answer. Clearly, Dr. Johnson forgot more than I ever knew about the geography of Orange County. If you think there's any questions I might be able to answer before the public hearing, I'm pleased to answer them. Again, we are going to try to get Dr. Johnson available via Zoom once he becomes available. Okay.

WILLIAMS: Greg, I think it's important, because there's a lot of misinformation and a lack of understanding.

BOYD: Ken, you need to be closer to the mic.

WILLIAMS: I think it's important, Greg if you can share with the public the Voting Rights Act and how it applies differently to county, and city, and school boards.

ROLEN: I will do my very best. The Voting Rights Act simply does not want the lines drawn that will marginalize an ethnic majority and minority that creates an ethnic majority or minority. The idea in the Voting Rights Act is that you try to give majority or minority populations a voice in the process. You can see from the trustee area number one, we went above and beyond to do that. The other laws that were mentioned this evening. The California Fair Maps Act, that doesn't apply to school boards. We have engaged one of the finest election law attorneys in the state. They are helping us through this process. As you heard, Mr. Montez say, Dr. Johnson's work is well-known and respected. That is what he was talking about with racially balanced, population balance. That's with an eye towards the California Voting Rights Act.

WILLIAMS: Could you explain that according to Mr. Johnson when he shared with us several months ago when he came here, he told us only one public hearing was necessary. I think we're going to have another public hearing next month on this, but could you help explain that?

ROLEN: Yeah, we've confirmed through election law council that only one public hearing is required for a county board of education. We have discussed my work has been driven by the subcommittee on redistricting, Trustees Williams and Shaw. The idea is that we have another public hearing on the December-

WILLIAMS: First.

ROLEN: On the December 1 meeting. Then we pass something at a special meeting before December 15. We also can have other special board meetings if that's the will of the board.

SPARKS: I know I noticed on the existing map. It didn't look correct to me.

ROLEN: It fell out of correctness.

SPARKS: Yeah.

ROLEN: It changed. Ten years ago, it may have been perfect, but the population densities-

SPARKS: Oh, I see.

ROLEN: Densities grew in different parts of the state and put different parts of the county at different rates. As you heard him say, there is now a 27% divergence in the population balance. The three maps he provided, there is a zero divergence in the population balance. That's critical.

SPARKS: Okay. I see. That map was from 10 years ago?

ROLEN: Right. That is our current map.

SPARKS: The one that I'm thinking of was four years ago.

ROLEN: I don't know.

SPARKS: Well, it wasn't, because Newport Beach is one of my cities. It wasn't in my district in that existing map.

ROLEN: Have you asked Newport Beach about that?

WILLIAMS: Which map?

SPARKS: The existing map.

ROLEN: The one that he showed first.

SPARKS: The one that he showed first.

ROLEN: I don't know if that's- I will double-check that.

BARKE: It's very hard to read. I know a lot of people have a lot of- when I was running for office-

ROLEN: I think that was kind of universal in the room tonight that it's very difficult to read. I agree.

GOMEZ: Isn't the map that's on our website the most current map though?

BARKE: Yes. That's the one I find challenging, yeah.

WILLIAMS: To my knowledge, yeah.

SPARKS: The existing one was different than that one. That's why I was a little bit confused.

BARKE: Oh, was it?

SPARKS: The one showed he showed in the video.

BOYD: He should have used ours.

GOMEZ: It was a little difficult for me to see, because there's a glare. I'm looking at an angle, and I can't really see.

BOYD: That screens out.

ROLEN: One of the wonders of modern technologies. That's going to be up there for us to parse and look at for weeks to come.

GOMEZ: Yeah. I'm wondering if that map that we have on our website is consistent with what the Registrar of Voters has?

SPARKS: Right. I don't know.

GOMEZ: I haven't looked and compared the two recently, but I would not suspect that they have changed since we did the redistricting.

SPARKS: Right. Yeah. That is what I was thinking. Isn't it every 10 years? Right. That's why I was really confused the first three minutes of the presentation. Okay.

WILLIAMS: If I can make a comment to the board speaking from an historical 26 years? This is my third redistricting. We've been very transparent, very open, very honest. I think part of the process that the public doesn't understand was the significant delay in the data. I mean, we didn't get the data until about a month ago I think from the state.

ROLEN: Yeah, September 21.

WILLIAMS: In order for Douglas to give us the maps. We just got the maps recently. We are doing a public hearing. We are doing a discussion. We are going to have another one December 1 at our board meeting. We are doing more than what we've done in my previous two redistricting. I appreciate everybody who is here, but that's historical how we we've done it. We don't have to do it. We don't have a staff by the way. There's been some comments out there. "Why don't we have community forums?" We don't have the staff. We all have full-time jobs someplace else. We don't have the staff to be able to have constituent outreach. We'd love to have that, but that's going to cost more money. Oftentimes we have to depend upon good citizens coming and sharing with us their vision. I think the goal of this meeting right now and our board is to hear from our constituents. If there's any constituents out there that has maps they'd like to present, please send them to us. There is a lot of details that have to be done with balancing of

the census data. Just like he presented just now, there's a lot of work that's being done on this project.

GOMEZ: How will the public be able to submit maps?

ROLEN: At their will. They could probably submit them through the Department. Would that be acceptable?

BOYD: Depends on the process the board sets up.

ROLEN: Exactly. Exactly

GOMEZ: That's why I'm asking. What is the process to submit maps?

ROLEN: Why don't we talk about that? I would respectfully submit that somebody can submit a map through the Department. We've been working together quite well. They can provide that to me. I'll provide it to Dr. Johnson for analysis.

SPARKS: Is that how you did it in the past?

ROLEN: Then we can have those maps available for discussion at the December 1 meeting.

BARKE: Should we just let the public know what the cutoff date would be? If the December 1 meeting, I think our agenda is put together about a week prior.

BOYD: It is going to be earlier than that, because you have holidays this month.

BARKE: Do you know what the cutoff date is? Do we have that already?

BOYD: The twelfth.

BARKE: Oh, wow. December 12th. I mean November 12th.

BOYD: November 12, because we are closed for Thanksgiving and the holidays.

BARKE: Wow, okay.

BOYD: For Thanksgiving ends the week so that's when your board packet has to go out to meet that December 1.

ROLEN: We can accept them at any time before that. We don't have to wait and have our submission.

BARKE: I think we have a question.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: [Inaudible].

BOYD: Protocol.

GOMEZ: That is not the public hearing.

BARKE: Oh, sorry.

BOYD: Apologize. We can talk offline, but we can't in the middle of the meeting take questions from the public.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: [Inaudible]

WILLIAMS: Otherwise, this will last forever.

BARKE: Gotcha.

BOYD: I will tell you. Lisa asked what the process was used previously? You all are using a different process this time. The board is working through the board's attorney to work with the demographer. In the past, the board worked with staff who worked with the demographer. The forums that you're talking about, staff worked with community and brought that back to the group that was working directly with the board. Our previous deputy, one of our assistant superintendents, their team pulled that information; worked with the demographer to get that out. That's why the information that we sent previously to the committee looks a little different. I think in terms of some of the committees they talked about, LULAC and others who were involved previously. They did have the ability to meet, have some information, input. The previous demographer took that input, that information. Whether they utilized it or not, I can't speak to that. But that's why there were multiple maps previously. I think there were five maps, because some outside entities submitted maps as well.

WILLIAMS: I think the committee, Tim and myself, we understood that process. That's why specifically the two districts, one was the Asian community, the Vietnamese community there in Little Saigon as well as District 1 being primarily Latino district. We understood that process. Certainly, we invite any organization or anybody to get ahold of our attorney or the board. You can contact the board with the email to the board. This process is not over. We are still going to come back with, we have maps one, two, and three. With the input from the community, there will be other maps.

BOYD: Then once the board makes their determinations and adopts a map, then that map would go to the county committee.

ROLEN: Correct.

BOYD: To be accepted. They would also have hearings and so forth.

ROLEN: I even wrote a script that says that.

BOYD: You just didn't use it.

ROLEN: For the public hearing.

GOMEZ: Okay. Let me ask the question again. What is the process? If there is a community member out there that wants to submit a map, how do they do it?

BARKE: I would suggest that they submit it to Nina; to our staff by November 12th. That's the cutoff for our agenda. That gives about nine days to go ahead and submit a map. Does that sound reasonable?

ROLEN: That sounds reasonable.

BARKE: Okay.

GOMEZ: Okay. What are they supposed to do? They're supposed to take something like this and draw it with crayon? I am trying to-

ROLEN: There's publicly available electronic demography.

GOMEZ: Perhaps you can share that with the public as to what tool they might use?

ROLEN: I will try to find out what tool that is. I don't know right off the top of my head.

BOYD: There was a suggestion that maybe we can talk to Mr. Johnson to provide the template that he's using so that then you all are looking at the same templates or everything.

GOMEZ: Yeah.

ROLEN: It is also available through the university, CSU Riverside.

BOYD: If he sends that to us, we can get that out, or put it on the website and whatever.

ROLEN: Okay. Just so that I'm understanding, you want me to contact Doug Johnson to get us the template to make available to the public so that they can work with the data?

BOYD: One of the speakers had suggested that.

ROLEN: He did.

BOYD: I'm just offering that. This board is saying process wise, what do they use? How can you use something rather than have a bunch of different diagrams that you're trying to decipher, it would make sense to have a similar, or the same template?

ROLEN: I think that's reasonable because in our discussions Dr. Johnson, he made it abundantly clear that there are tools out there that are available to public organizations and private citizens to do this work with. If we can provide a template or some sort of demographic data that's available, we will do that.

BOYD: Pretty quickly, though, because their timeline is short.

ROLEN: He might be on by eight.

BOYD: If he's calling later, we can talk to him about that, or you can talk to him about.

GOMEZ: Back to process again. Are we going to put something on the website to allow people to access and submit maps? Is that what we are going to do? I wish we would have had that in place before tonight.

ROLEN: We just got the maps on the 29th, so that's a board discussion. I'm happy to do whatever you tell me to do. It sounds like we have some agreement they we will be submitted through staff by November 12. That as soon as humanly possible, we will ask Dr. Johnson to get us some electronic templates to help the community work through the data.

GOMEZ: Don't we have to submit the maps before then? If he has to do the statistics and everything for that?

ROLEN: I can't speak to his availability. What I can offer is that if a community member draws a map and it doesn't meet with these Voting Rights Act criteria and population balance, that's what I'm going to ask them to look at. That's all I'm going to ask him to look at.

GOMEZ: He has to be able to run the numbers, though. All I'm saying is try to give him enough time to do that so we can get our board packet on time.

ROLEN: Sure.

GOMEZ: Then those maps can be posted for the public, because I think that's where the rub is right now.

ROLEN: The public is going to get their maps posted. That's not a problem. The problem is the analysis of the maps that Dr. Johnson is going to need to do.

GOMEZ: The public can't comment on the maps unless the analysis is done so that's what I'm trying to get to is how much time does he need to do that? Now I will say, you know, Tustin just went through the redistricting. We had five public hearings between September 30th and Monday. We scrambled. There was no question about it. We scrambled to do those public hearings. Many cities are doing the same thing. I think this is again where the public is having some frustration. That we don't have the availability to submit a map. They've just seen these maps, you know. They got buried in our Agenda. I would ask that they be clearly visible on our website somewhere so that people can find them easily and have a process to submit the maps.

WILLIAMS: Mari and I, because Tim is no longer with the board, we are in the process of looking at these maps, looking at the data, processing what is being told to us tonight. Some very good comments have been made. I like your comments. I think it is reasonable to provide whatever tools/software is out there. I'm sure we can get it from Mr. Johnson. As Greg iterated,

there are software tools out there now that are available. We will be working with the consensus of the board, with our website developer to put some sort of information on our website regarding that. That will be done this week. Actually, I'll be working on it tomorrow with Mari, so we'll have that information available. We're going to be coming back on December 1st with, hopefully some new suggestions with more input from the public, maps from the public. We'll be talking with Mr. Johnson to maybe provide us with more maps.

GOMEZ: I think that would be a good option so that people can see. I would also-

WILLIAMS: I'd like to hear your input about your district. What do you think?

GOMEZ: It was messy.

WILLIAMS: You think it was messy?

GOMEZ: It was. Just because there was so- we had I want to say 20 maps.

WILLIAMS: No, no. Not for Tustin, for your county board, District 1.

GOMEZ: Yeah.

WILLIAMS: Do you think that's a good map for your district?

GOMEZ: It's hard for me to say. I couldn't blow it up big enough to actually look at where some of the lines were. I think one of the challenges is really kind of keeping communities of interest together. I know that Doug was saying something about they had to split some cities, and they had to do some other things. I don't know if there's perhaps a better way to do it. I'm not just talking about just my district, but all of our districts to make sure we don't do that. Keeping intact, again, the communities of interest and some of the population concerns that we have.

WILLIAMS: Oh, sure. I mean the communities of interest is very important. Greg, could you comment on, Beckie made a comment that her city did five public hearings. We're going to have two what's the law say how many we have to have?

ROLEN: It is my understanding that we only have to have one.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

BARKE: Do cities have to have more? Do you know?

ROLEN: The rules are different for cities and counties.

GOMEZ: Yeah, the cities do have to have more, but I think that the intent and the spirit of the law, is to again create some transparency so that people have an opportunity to look at the maps. Unfortunately, when the maps got posted on Friday, I believe. They were in our agenda. It wasn't easy for the public to find them. Perhaps if we had it somewhere prominent on the first page of

the website. People could find it easily. Even if the link sends them to another page. They at least have the ability to find it easy, and to be able to comment, and submit maps if necessary.

WILLIAMS: Your suggestions are then that we have a separate URL page for the maps and redistricting?

GOMEZ: What I'm saying is that it should be prominent on the first page. Even if that URL sends us to another page where-

SPARKS: I have a suggestion. I like the suggestion. I think, yeah. Have a link that's very prominent especially because right now this is a very important issue. We're on a timeline. Big thing on the front of the webpage that people can easily click on. Then it takes them to the link. Then they can play around with it. Then they can upload it easily. To your email? Is there a portal?

WILLIAMS: We have a board email.

SPARKS: Technology. I don't know. Okay. To the board email. Then in terms of timing, would it be reasonable because you guys are going need to get this going hopefully by Friday you could have it posted.

GOMEZ: Yesterday.

SPARKS: Yesterday. Yeah. Hopefully by Friday you could have it posted. Then people would have a week to contribute. We're running out of time.

GOMEZ: Yeah, we are.

WILLIAMS: Nina, give us the mechanics. Can we do this?

GOMEZ: Where's the in?

WILLIAMS: Can our staff do this?

SPARKS: You had to scramble in Tustin. We obviously have to scramble right now.

BOYD: Staff will work with you all to try to achieve your goal. I think for us to say right now without knowing what the software looks like, I mean mechanically, I'm not the technology wizard. Whether those pieces fall into place is really the question. Yes, definitely, we can post something on the website that is prominent that speaks to redistricting. Then whether that's a link that takes them somewhere else, or they click on that and it gives some process information that you all have determined and it also identifies timelines. That can be done. That's not an issue. When you're talking about, you know, linking in and uploading and so forth, that is really contingent upon what we are working with. Without me asking our IT staff and our Media staff to look at that and to know. Just like we got the YouTube link. We couldn't do anything with the volume.

There are things that, you know, you just can't do to certain documents. I would say that. The other thing, I know I mentioned to Mari on our Executive Committee call, we need to have two meetings in December. We were trying to get a poll out to you all today and trying to get the last-minute maps and some of the things that came. We weren't able to get that to you. That also gives you a little bit of flexibility. I'm not saying in terms of, you know, when you hold your hearing, but certainly in terms of input and or when you take action.

There is a grant that's just been identified that will benefit our students, and our special schools, and ACCESS program that needs to come before the board. Like LCAP, it takes two meetings. You have to take action before the 31st of December. Our staff is rapidly working to put together the documents to meet your December 1st to introduce the information to you. Then we would like to have a special meeting the following week if that works with your schedule. You could have redistricting also on the agenda if necessary. I'm just bringing that up so that as we are talking about rushing through this, I think we need to be thoughtful in terms of ensuring that the appropriate amount of time and energy is given based on public input, the work that the demographer's doing, and what you all will need to do.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. You used the word rushing. I think we've already planned and discussed this. I don't know if that's the correct way to describe it.

BOYD: I didn't mean it in a negative way. I just meant in terms of urgency.

WILLIAMS: We're doing our best with the time limitations and the data that was significantly delayed. The fact that we have to deal with the Brown Act, that limits conversation and dialogue. We have to bring everything here. This is the time when it came. We couldn't have done it last month, so this is the date that it took. It's taken place, and it will take place again in December. I think we're doing our best with the circumstances. These are difficult times.

ROLEN: These are difficult times. I want to repeat what the board's expecting of me in the process that the public submits maps through staff by November 12. As soon as humanly possible, we get a template from Dr. Johnson or a suggested demographic tool to help the public in constructing some maps, get the demographic data, the census data to the public as well with equal speed. We will have Dr. Johnson do an analysis of the maps submitted by the public by November 12 and have something available. He'll be here to speak to it directly, but have something available for the board packets. Also have Dr. Johnson look at a better way to balance the population taking into account communities of interest. That's Trustee Gomez suggestion. Does that about cover it?

SPARKS: Could I offer one more suggestion for those constituents that aren't as tech savvy and maybe kind of a little reticent to play around with a demographic program? I think just listing the cities that, you know, in each district that you were interested in could be a second - a Plan B if you are kind of uncomfortable with the demography program, which a lot of people would be.

BARKE: Right.

WILLIAMS: We heard tonight from a citizen who complained that Cypress is no longer a part of the Los Al. connection there. We heard from the citizen, so maybe that's a map that's redrawn from that suggestion. We look at all suggestions and would encourage it. We will be providing more maps.

BARKE: Could that be done as well, Greg?

ROLEN: That is exactly.

BARKE: Okay.

ROLEN: That is exactly Trustee Gomez suggestion. We're just going to look at different ways to accomplish the same goal.

BARKE: Okay. Just have asked that citizens submit things. I'd like Cypress back in, or I'd like Garden Grove back, you know, or whatever it might be.

ROLEN: Okay.

GOMEZ: Maybe he could just listen to the public comment portion of our meeting that address redistricting so that he could, you know, at least get a flavor of what-

ROLEN: That is a good idea. Are we going to do the same thing at the public hearing, because that's a good idea? We can have him just listen to public comment.

GOMEZ: Yeah. Some comments, you can look at it, but it will create an imbalance. But at least it's taken into account. I will just tell you that one of the tools that we had, when we talk about not being very tech savvy with some folks, we just had a map up there of the city. Then people just took it. We did get some crayons. We did get some color-ins. But you know, people were looking at some natural boundaries. Tustin is really interesting in that it intersects two freeways. We were taking that into account. There were some people that could use the tool, and it was good. Then there were other maps that were just literally drawn by hand. Then the demographer did the analysis on that. Some maps were not balanced, and we couldn't consider. But like I said, we had 20 maps submitted. I think we were able to consider, off the top of my head, I want to say eight.

WILLIAMS: These 20 maps were submitted by the good people in your district?

GOMEZ: Some were by the demographer and some were from, you know-

WILLIAMS: The citizens.

GOMEZ: The public. Yes. There was a combination.

WILLIAMS: Did they have the opportunity on your website to have that software program to manipulate? You just don't recall the name of that software program?

GOMEZ: I don't. It was something that was provided by the demographer, which is the same one.

WILLIAMS: Is it still on Tustin City Council?

GOMEZ: It is on drawtustin.org. I don't know if it's still up, because we just approved the maps.

WILLIAMS: You have already approved your maps?

GOMEZ: Yeah.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

GOMEZ: That's why I said it was-

BOYD: It is still the Doug Johnson's company.

GOMEZ: Yes.

BOYD: It should be.

GOMEZ: Hopefully, he has the ability to do. Obviously, it's a much bigger space - the county as opposed to a city. But, you know, he could probably provide some other feedback to you as he talks to you.

WILLIAMS: He's a busy guy.

GOMEZ: Yeah.

WILLIAMS: He has so many cities.

GOMEZ: Everybody's got the same deadline.

WILLIAMS: When he came and presented to your board how to do this, how long ago was that?

GOMEZ: Well, it was after September.

WILLIAMS: After September? It's been really recent. You just really worked hard to meet the deadlines.

GOMEZ: Yeah. Staff worked their tail off to try to organize the public forums. There were workshops as well as public hearings. The public can do it all sorts of ways. They could literally, you know, have an outline of the county. Then look at some natural breaks. They can also see if, again, we publish the maps so people can look at them and say, "Oh, I like that map except for this part."

BARKE: Right. Minor edits.

GOMEZ: A couple things.

WILLIAMS: Part of the process when Tim and I were working on this is, thinking Mr. Montez, I don't know if he's here now, but he was talking about MALDEF and LULAC and some of the Latino communities. We specifically wanted to make a Latino community, which is primarily District 1. We knew the Vietnamese community in Fountain Valley, and Westminster, and Garden Grove, that they wanted a community and a district. We did these maps with that in mind. I didn't have any input into what he came up with. He just kind of created these. I think with what we heard from the public tonight and what hopefully the people will submit to us, whether it's an email and say, "I want my city in this district," or if they actually draw maps and use whatever software is out there. We're open to that.

Going forward, we'll be here December 1 with another public hearing; probably more maps to talk about. Then it sounds like we have, I'm the guy who strategizes for the agenda. We have this agenda that we have to have a special grant that is a two-part process. We'll vote. We'll hear it on the first, and we'll have the second meeting in December. I'm not sure what that date will be, but that will probably will be the date that we adopt the maps. That's kind of what we've been talking about.

GOMEZ: That would give the public more opportunity to comment on it. We also have a due date of December 15th, so we're looking at a meeting between December 1st and December 15th, right?

WILLIAMS: Oh yeah.

SPARKS: Just so the public understands and we all understand, the second meeting we quote, "adopt one of the" is this how it works? We adopt one of it. Then we submit it to where? Then how does it get finalized?

GOMEZ: Through the county committee, I believe.

SPARKS: County committee.

ROLEN: We submit it to the county committee with a letter of explanation. The secretary to the county committee is sitting right next to you.

SPARKS: Oh.

ROLEN: No, the other way.

SPARKS: Okay. Then a final decision was made by that committee?

ROLEN: Yeah.

SPARKS: Then it's done?

ROLEN: Then respectfully the county committee and we submit it to the Registrar of Voters. Both of us do it simultaneously.

SPARKS: A lot of people don't understand this whole process. They haven't been through it.

ROLEN: Understood.

GOMEZ: Every 10 years, then we forget.

SPARKS: That's right.

ROLEN: Just a point to alert everybody. I don't know if all of the things we've been discussing, I know the public forums and the like and the providing of the demographic tools to the public, that might not be within the scope of Dr. Johnson's contract. I'm going to have to take a look at that. These were things that we discussed when we adopted his contract. We made certain decisions on that. I'm going to have to take a look. I don't imagine it's going to be a problem. In the interest of, I don't want it to become a problem, and you didn't hear about it from me when I had an opportunity to tell you about it.

WILLIAMS: Could you also comment and give, it's more for the board, you've been working with an election attorney.

ROLEN: Right.

WILLIAMS: Could you give a comment to the board? Reflection of your conversations with this election attorney.

ROLEN: Yes. When it became unclear on the county committee's involvement, we got a direction from the board president to engage an elections attorney. Her name is Marguerite Leoni. She is understood to be the best election law attorney in the state. She is with Nielsen Merksamer in San Francisco. Every major decision or point of misunderstanding, we run by her. She's on the payroll.

WILLIAMS: Did she see any problems with the process [inaudible]?

ROLEN: No. She had the same, you know, it's gratifying. She had the same direction for Doug as I did. Make sure everything is perfectly balanced. Make sure the communities of interest are represented, and there will be no legal challenge.

WILLIAMS: There may be a legal challenge.

ROLEN: It just, yeah.

WILLIAMS: Those things happen.

ROLEN: That was her focus as well.

WILLIAMS: Right.

ROLEN: Lawyers focus on laws - California Voting Rights Act, population balance.

WILLIAMS: Very good. Move on the seven, public hearing.

BARKE: Okay. We are going to move on to number seven, the public hearing,

ROLEN: My apologies if this is repetitive after the lengthy conversation we just had. Good evening, this is agenda item- this is number seven?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

ROLEN: Agenda item number seven is a public hearing concerning adjustments to the trustee area's boundaries of the Orange County Board of Education. The Education Code requires that following each decennial federal census, the Board of Education trustee areas shall be adjusted so that trustee areas shall be nearly equal in population as may be. The final census data validated by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance became available for these purposes at the end of September 2021. This represented a six-month delay because of the impacts of COVID-19 on the operations of the United States Census Bureau. This deadline for the adjustment process has to be completed by December 15th, 2021.

Today the board has heard from its retained consultant, Dr. Douglas Johnson of National Demographic Corporation who has performed in an analysis of the current Board of Education trustee areas for compliance with equal population standard, determined whether adjustments are required, and developed sample maps to meet the nearly equal population standard. After Dr. Johnson's presentation, the board has asked questions of council and may ask further clarifying questions of Dr. Johnson if he is available. After clarifying questions, the board will open a public hearing to hear from our community about the proposed options for boundary adjustments to the board of education trustee areas.

After this public hearing, we're going to have another public hearing on this matter on December 1st, 2021, and perhaps another special meeting after that date. After these hearings, the board of trustees will adopt adjustments to the trustee area boundaries to balance population as required by law. The board will then request the Orange County Committee on School District Reorganization to approve the new trustee area boundaries as complying with the equal population criteria. They don't give me a hammer, because I don't know what to do with it. With that, we open the public hearing.

WILLIAMS: Nina, are there any cards for the public hearing for public comments?

BOYD: There are not.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

ROLEN: We will refer Dr. Johnson to the comments in public comment.

BARKE: Can we let somebody get a card now?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: [Inaudible]

WILLIAMS: I am open for it.

BARKE: I am open for it.

GOMEZ: Just open the public hearing.

BOYD: If you want to speak for the public hearing, if you can line up at the podium? You can fill out just your name on a slip of paper so that we can record it. You can do it after you've spoken.

ROLEN: That would be fine.

BOYD: That works for you all?

ROLEN: Are we going to do the three-minute timing as per usual?

BARKE: That makes sense.

BOYD: I'm sorry.

JANET: That's okay.

BOYD: I'm communicating with Doug right now, so I'm just letting you know.

JANET: Okay. Janet Henry. Thank you for illuminating a lot of the information here. It was really good to see things and to hear comments. I just wanted to share with you kind of how this is synthesized down for me. We have hired these fantastic demographers and these fantastic lawyers. They are the best, and they know everything. No, I'm not doubting it.

ROLEN: Let her go.

JANET: No, no. I felt good about all that. Then what is missing is the human element. They've given us all the details. They've given us all the lines. Now, you each know your constituents. What I think as a leader, then you would sit back and go, "Okay, what do my people need in my district?" Then if we're going to change it, some people might go to Lisa Sparks. Some might go to Mari. I might want to talk with you and say, "Well, look at this." How that works in that sense. What I would ask the board, now that you have all that data, you as the leaders of the people, and of the students, and of the teachers, and of the community, I think it's really important that when we talk about this we are not just talking about students and teachers. We are all community members. This is about each of us. Each of us pays for this. I heard someone

say that, we as parents pay. No, we all pay for this. We all care as a community, not just a parent, not just a grandparent. I just ask that you now look at the human element of this. That should be helpful.

BARKE: Thank you.

JANET: Not easier, but helpful.

BARKE: I appreciate it. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Mr. Wright.

BILLIE: Good evening again. My name is Billie Joe Wright. Being a teacher, everything's a learning opportunity. I appreciate what was said tonight. I appreciate things being slowed down a little bit. I do want to say that I think that because we know it happens every 10 years, and it's not the first time. There's probably some lessons to be learned of what we could've done ahead of time. Right. You know, in terms of already reaching out to groups and community members and kind of already getting their lists of what's important either in my area or in my community. Some things have changed. Like we've talked about. Also, as a government teacher who has been through this in other areas. This would have been a great opportunity and could still be a good opportunity to engage our students. It's a great way for them to learn about community issues and how districting redrawing is done. I know it's a short time period, but it's a great opportunity to just reach out and to engage people. Especially with the comments I heard tonight about how important it is to have people come here and speak about ongoing things that are happening.

The greatest way to improve our community, and our country, and our democracy is to have people involved and to show them ways to be involved. I want to thank you for slowing it down. Engage the schools. Really think about how to just capture, what are those important things that are going on in each of their districts? I think you just heard some wonderful ideas. I hope that you continue to think that way in the future on everything. Thank you again.

BARKE: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Are there any other public comments out there on item number seven the public hearing? Nina? Darou? There are no other public comments?

BOYD: Just those two.

WILLIAMS: Just those two? Okay.

ROLEN: Do we have Dr. Johnson available?

BOYD: He is trying to access the Zoom link.

ROLEN: Should we delay the closing of the public hearing?

BARKE: Is it going to happen momentarily?

BOYD: He's not saying when. He just said he didn't have the Zoom link.

ROLEN: Why don't we close the public hearing? Then we can allow him if he comes available, he can speak to item number six.

BARKE: Okay. Yeah. We'll go ahead and close.

ROLEN: With that, we will close the public hearing.

BARKE: Do I have to bang the gavel? [BARKE STRIKES THE GAVEL] We're closing the public hearing. Okay. We're going to move along to number eight. That is Rolen and Williams. Greg, I think your backup.

ROLEN: This will be very brief. Hopefully to give Dr. Johnson an opportunity to say the same thing we've already said a couple of times. This item is concerning an attorney client privilege memorandum that was provided to the board concerning the authority and timing of the board's action on the superintendent's salary. We wanted to do this publicly just to underscore the legal authority and share the process with the public. The California Constitution provides the county boards of education the authority to fix the salary of the superintendent. The Education Code prevents the board from retroactively lowering somebody's salary once they are in office.

There has been two attorney general opinions that have researched this issue. Essentially, they said that the board may vote to increase or decrease the superintendent's salary at a properly noticed regular meeting before the commencement of a new electoral term. At the direction of the Executive Committee, my office is conducting a study to state each county by population, each county by average daily attendance. To the extent possible, get the salary of their respective superintendents to inform the board on that decision. Staff has been made aware of this process. The population data and the ADA have already been completed. We're having little trouble finding all the salaries of all the superintendents. We called the County Boards Association, and they did not have that data.

WILLIAMS: You're going to obtain the data. You are going to come back to the board with this data.

ROLEN: We have a paralegal in our office compiling the data.

WILLIAMS: Okay. You are going to provide us with a report. We don't want to when, huh?

ROLEN: No, I don't know when. I'm going to try to have this by the next meeting. This process has been engaged for about a month already.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

SPARKS: I'm surprised there's not a publicly available list for all public official's salaries.

ROLEN: There probably is.

GOMEZ: There is.

ROLEN: There is. It just takes going through, what's it called, Candid California or Transparent California.

GOMEZ: Transparent California.

ROLEN: Transparent California and trying to find the, you know. Sometimes that data is a little bit off.

SPARKS: It's not searchable?

ROLEN: It's searchable, but it's laborious.

SPARKS: Okay

BARKE: I think the data is about a year behind typically.

ROLEN: We'll have to have all those caveats in the report.

SPARKS: Okay.

GOMEZ: Well, I think it would be important when we looked at that. Not only look at base salary, but look at additional compensation, because I know that some superintendents also get, you know, car allowance and things like that, which ups their compensation. I would like us to include, you know, those kinds of things, because that is overall compensation.

ROLEN: Certainly.

BARKE: Okay. Moving on to the consent calendar.

WILLIAMS: I make a motion to adopt the consent calendar items 9, 10, 11, and 12.

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: All those in favor?

GOMEZ: I'd like to pull items 11 and 12. I'll move the balance.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Okay. We can vote on 9 and 10.

BARKE: Okay. All those in favor of 9 and 10?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed? Okay. The ayes have it.

GOMEZ: For item number 12, there is just some billing here. We just have some numbers, and then there's some no charges. I would just like to know what those items represent before I can approve it.

ROLEN: I can't speak to Ms. Chidester's bills. I don't have my bills immediately before me. The reason I don't have my bills immediately before me is that the board passed a resolution to just submit the bills to the Executive Committee and allow them to approve or not approve the bills. We were sort of surprised when we saw this on the agenda this time. If you want me to do an analysis of a particular bill of mine, I'm happy to do that retroactively and bring it back to you.

GOMEZ: This is for Mrs. Chidester's bill.

ROLEN: Like I said, I can't speak to Ms. Chidester's bills. She tells me a lot, but not.

WILLIAMS: From protocol in the consent calendar, items 11 and 12 were pulled. I don't think we made a formal motion. You want to make a formal motion to bring up item 11, and I will second it?

GOMEZ: I did when I started speaking to it. I pulled the item. I pulled item 11 and 12. I'm asking on item 11.

WILLIAMS: It hasn't been brought up.

ROLEN: I am sorry, I didn't realize you were speaking to 11.

WILLIAMS: You have to have a formal motion to bring it up for discussion. It has to be a motion, a second. Then we discuss it. That's the way we've always done our protocol.

GOMEZ: I will make a motion not to approve the bills, because I don't have enough information to approve it.

ROLEN: Is this to item 11 and 12? We should do each individually.

GOMEZ: I am still on item 11.

ROLEN: We should do each item individually. That's all.

GOMEZ: Yeah. Item 11.

BARKE: Is there a second for the motion?

SPARKS: No.

WILLIAMS: The item dies from a lack of second. I'll make a motion to approve item number 11, Chidester and Associates. This is something we've. Okay. Second. Just for background. We have already chosen and asked Maggie to do an analysis. That was done last month. It was an excellent analysis. The bill here is for the bulk of her professional services.

GOMEZ: Okay. What was the analysis?

WILLIAMS: You were here last meeting, I believe.

GOMEZ: Yes. I'm asking what was the analysis? What do those hours represent?

WILLIAMS: Did you not get to look at the invoice?

GOMEZ: The invoice is here. It doesn't tell me what it's for. I don't have the opportunity to look at the detail of the invoice.

ROLEN: The work that she provided was the, I think it was 20-page memorandum on grants and contracts that was provided to the board. Then there was a public discussion about that.

GOMEZ: We spent \$20,000 on that analysis. Wow. Okay.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Motion a second. Any other discussion?

BARKE: Okay. All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed?

GOMEZ: I will oppose it.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: I'll make the motion to approve item number 12.

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: Discussion?

GOMEZ: All right. I have a question on this bill, on page 43. There's some expert fees there. Could I get a clarification on what those expert fees are?

ROLEN: I'm certain that's the matter with Ms. Leoni that we just discussed. How much was the invoice? How much was the billable?

GOMEZ: For expert fees, it is \$28,000 plus.

ROLEN: Yeah, that would be her.

GOMEZ: Okay. Could you describe what expert services?

WILLIAMS: No, no, no, no, no, no. I disagree with that. On page 43 you are referring to, that was for the Nielsen Merksamer expert legal fees so that came to \$7,777.

GOMEZ: Oh, I'm sorry. You are absolutely right. I looked at the very total of the invoice.

WILLIAMS: Right. Maybe you can help explain the process of how the billing works since you are working with an attorney?

ROLEN: Certainly. It's just like with any other expert witness that is approved by the client. You have a contract with the expert witness. Expert lawyer in this particular case. She sends me a bill. I pass that bill along to the.

WILLIAMS: You pay her through the money we give you. Is that correct?

ROLEN: That is correct.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

GOMEZ: If you can explain? You said you accessed her services for purposes of the maps. Is that accurate?

ROLEN: Consultation on the redistricting process? Yes.

GOMEZ: Okay. How many hours did that entail?

ROLEN: I don't know.

GOMEZ: Okay. All right. We don't have information. That's hard to vote on something.

WILLIAMS: The question regarding the hours, she charges probably the going rate \$350.

ROLEN: No, she doesn't. She charges \$750 an hour.

WILLIAMS: Oh, really?

ROLEN: Yeah.

WILLIAMS: Okay. So

ROLEN: That's a specialty in that area.

SPARKS: They said she was the top expert.

ROLEN: That is what it drives. Yes. I asked her for a job, I didn't get it.

WILLIAMS: Okay. We only pay you what, \$320 an hour, right? The \$7,777 represents about 10 hours worth of work based upon that 750 the number.

ROLEN: That is the number. Yeah.

WILLIAMS: I don't know if that helps you Beckie?

SPARKS: It just tells us that we all went into the wrong profession.

ROLEN: It doesn't help me at all.

GOMEZ: Yeah. Well, it's my understanding when we go out and look for additional attorneys that we do so with the board's consent. I don't recall us doing that with this particular expert. That is why I questioned what it was.

BARKE: We had Executive Committee consent.

WILLIAMS: Right. I think, my recall helped me out here, Greg. The recall for this decision was by the Executive Committee. We have a policy under certain circumstances that allows that. Is that correct?

ROLEN: There's not a policy necessarily that I'm familiar with. Throughout all of our litigation that we've been engaged in, litigation counsel has engaged experts. That is part of the retention agreement. I did seek consultation with the president about this directly. I'm certain it was a good decision.

WILLIAMS: The reason is you're not a law.

ROLEN: Anything.

WILLIAMS: You're a general education council, and you don't deal with election law.

ROLEN: I thought it was important to engage the best on redistricting, because it's clearly something that is very important to all of us.

BARKE: All right. Are we needing to vote on that now?

SPARKS: Yeah.

BARKE: All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed?

GOMEZ: I will oppose.

BARKE: Okay.

BOYD: I received information that Mr. Johnson is still in his other meeting and is not available until 8 o'clock or after.

WILLIAMS: I don't have any questions for him. I think we've talked a lot about this.

BOYD: He has the Zoom link.

WILLIAMS: Right.

BOYD: I'm not sure when you go through the rest of your agenda items, what time we'll be at.

WILLIAMS: Right. I'm okay if we don't talk with them. I'm not sure how much time we're going to spend on this. It may be 30 minutes that we spend on it.

GOMEZ: Why don't we just see where we're at at the point we finish.

SPARKS: Yeah.

GOMEZ: It would be important for him important for him to understand what we're asking for, and for him to ask us what we need if we're looking for tools.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. I think Greg is going to communicate that to Mr. Johnson too. We are going to informational items and communications.

BARKE: Okay. We're moving on now to communications. Board discussion? Have we've covered re-districting? Do we want to move on to the board website?

WILLIAMS: I think that's reasonable. I think we've talked a lot about the redistricting unless somebody else wants to bring it up. Again, for the record, we will be back December 1st with another public hearing with more maps. Then it looks like because we have to have a second meeting in December, we are going to have a second meeting. Darou and so on, will poll the board as to when that second meeting will be. Regarding the board website. Nina, I will defer to you for that status.

BOYD: Ian.

WILLIAMS: You defer to him.

BOYD: Ian is here. Part of the discussion that was a carry over, and we asked you all to think about. I know that Darou sent you an email. It was with regards to how you want to receive emails in the future. If you wanted status quo; what we've been doing. Everything goes into, you know, the central depository. We send the information out to you. Weed through the junk mail,

solicitations, that type of thing. It was mixed in terms of response and some no response. We need to know as we get ready to release the website, because it's posted on there. Either it's ocbe@ocbe so the public can communicate with you, or we would establish separate email addresses for you so that you could get communications that way. We need that so that we can finish that piece of it.

There were questions with regards to, you all had talked about you wanting pictures. Ian asked me, "Where do they want the pictures?" Good question. I don't know if that's, you know, a gallery so to speak of pictures just as things occur and so forth. You all make determinations. You want to update pictures as you all are at events and doing different things, or if you want it associated to certain things and it's just tied that way. Just a few logistical questions related to that. Then anything else that you all have for questions for Ian and his team before this becomes a public website.

HANNIGAN: The top line is that the migration has happened. We have the website. It's on our internal server. Anytime you're ready, we can flip the switch.

SPARKS: I think we are ready.

HANNIGAN: Okay. We are excited to do that. We kind of went through and migrated everything over. I think we'll have a few last-minute changes, obviously with the developments with Trustee Shaw. I will meet and talk with Nina about, you know, other things that we want to add in terms of redistricting. We can move on this pretty quick.

SPARKS: I think in terms of pictures, you know, you upload what you have for now. Then as we have events every few months or additional pictures-

BARKE: Or awards, or whatever it might be in a meeting.

SPARKS: Yeah. Awards. We just upload the new.

BARKE: Are you very good at Photoshopping where you can just slice Tim Shaw right out?

HANNIGAN: That's a really good question actually, because you did take a picture that I think would be pretty ideal.

BARKE: We did.

HANNIGAN: We have a few photos from recent board meetings, you know, recognitions. I thought that we could probably put them, you know, on the top or below under media and kind of have a deck that revolves there; or, we could have a link to a brand-new page that displays photos as they go with brief caption. If that's the preference of the board, we can get that done.

SPARKS: Can you have photos that roll through?

HANNIGAN: Not on this current configuration, but you know, Shane always says anything's possible. That would be something we would probably need to contract with SectorPoint.

SPARKS: I think visually that's kind of interesting. If we have enough interesting photos, I mean, maybe we don't right now. We probably have not very many interesting photos.

BARKE: I can send you a few.

SPARKS: But as we have more and more events, maybe we could move toward that rolling. It gives that feel of vibrancy.

HANNIGAN: It is something that can continue to evolve. I think, you know, we are excited to get to this phase where we can kind of activate that. Like I always say with web development, this isn't a scenario where we just dust our hands in satisfaction and say, we did it. This is all evolving.

SPARKS: Yeah. I say we get it up and going. Then we keep evolving with new information new links to redistricting.

BARKE: Since Tim is gone, did you want to join that committee with Ken? I joined redistricting, because I had to.

SPARKS: I guess I talked too much today.

BARKE: Over the weekend, I took over his redistricting. There was no choice. Maybe you could take over the website? You seem very passionate.

WILLIAMS: In fact, you want to be the chairperson? I can give total responsibility to you.

SPARKS: Okay. I'll do it.

BARKE: You are our new web chair.

SPARKS: I talked too much today. That's the problem. No, I'm happy to do it.

WILLIAMS: Just a question. Good job by the way. We so appreciate what you've done. The question that Nina presented regarding the email communication. We don't have staff. We get all these emails, and each one of them is unique and important to respond to. We just don't have staff to do that. I know Darou doesn't want to work for free and answer all those emails. The same with Nina. I am concerned about.

BARKE: What did you say, Darou?

SISAVATH: I am here to support.

BARKE: One thing just, before I forget. If you could send the emails one at a time. When there's like nine or 13, I just get so confused. I try and answer them. I'm like, oh my gosh, which one did I just answer five or six?

SISAVATH: That is because Dr. Williams had said group them in.

BARKE: Oh boy. You must not be answering them if you're grouping them.

SISAVATH: That is when he was president. Now you are president.

BARKE: Okay. Yeah. I prefer one at a time, because then I can actually answer it and get rid of it.

SISAVATH: I am happy to do that.

BARKE: When I get 13 at a time, it's a big commitment. I literally keep like going, oh, I just did that one and oh my goodness.

SPARKS: I prefer one at a time.

BARKE: Yeah. Yeah. Thank you. I think it will be better service. One person actually wrote to me. I said, "Did I already write to you?" She wrote back and said, "I think you did." Yeah.

WILLIAMS: Regarding the individual emails, I don't have the time to answer everybody. I would love to have staff answer everybody. Some of these questions are very simple and basic. Some of them are more heart-wrenching and gut wrenching. Some of them are just about policy issues. I don't know how that would work. We haven't really talked about that before. In my going on 26 years, we kind of just send them to the board secretary. We would receive them. We never responded to them.

BOYD: There was a time when we would respond. We still do. If they're asking a simple question, you know, when's the next board meeting, or how do I communicate with the board? We don't send those to you. We go ahead. We answer those kinds of questions and so forth. Some people will ask for your direct email. They want to communicate with you directly. We'll send you that. Ask you, can we give them a direct email? or they want a phone number. Each board member is different in terms of their response. I can't pinpoint a timeframe, but there was a timeframe that the board said, "we don't want staff just responding to communications." That, and you are getting more emails, so it's a combination of both.

Some of you will send back and say, "would you send regrets on this." A lot of them are invitations for things. Once you tell us that, we can send regrets. That's not a problem. As Darou said, we are here to support the board. From that standpoint and as I said before, if there's too much and she's working on board agenda and a lot of other things. I utilize other staff. Dr. Mijares is very good about resources that are available to us to ensure that we're being responsive. From that standpoint, it's not an issue in terms of the responding. Some of them are philosophical. All of our beliefs are not the same.

BARKE: Right.

BOYD: From that standpoint, we're not going to answer something that we know you have certain positions, or concerns, or so forth, or that are very personal. From that standpoint, you know, those we would hope that either you respond, or you choose not to. That's up to you, but those are not things that we would automatically take on. We typically, if we do send a response on something, I know Mari always says, "Let me know you've responded." I want to make sure that if she's got it flagged or whatever either we send her a copy of the response, or just let her know that it's been responded to depending on what it is. She doesn't need to see the exact thing in some cases and others, you know, she wants to keep copies of those.

We are trying to work to support each of your individual and collective needs. I know that over the last number of years there's been questions with regards to separating emails from your personal email and so forth; also because of public records requests and so forth. From that standpoint, it does get convoluted a little bit. Some of you have three or four email addresses. We are using the one that you've told us to use to communicate with you.

If we set up a Department one for you, we can set up a number of ways. It can be set up where those are coming directly to you if people choose to utilize that. Then there is the blanket one for the full board so that if they were just communicating with the board in general, they could just use the ocbe@ocde.us link. Depending on what it is, would determine, you know, does it go to all of you. We wouldn't expect the public to have to do an email to each of you if it was one for all of you. That's really the point of the discussion. Based on where we are at this point in time and the types of things that you're getting, what do you see working best for the board? We can continue status quo, because there continues to be questions. "Are we ever going to get our own email address?" Well, that's up to the board. I mean, you know, certainly we can do it. The question now is really, because we have created a separate website, is this the time to do that? Is that something that the full board is interested in?

SPARKS: I think the only way we could do that is if we had our own staff person.

BOYD: What difference does a staff person make to that?

SPARKS: You are saying if we have our own website, then it's going to be our own OCBE email. Then you know, we can't continue to burden you guys with that.

BOYD: No. Ken said, you all don't have staff. You don't have the ability to have staff. I mean, the code doesn't allow you to have employees. From that standpoint, we can still do all the things. It's just a mechanism of how things get to you. Just like with the press release, people want to get a press response. I know there was some criticism on when you all got them. We are doing lots of different things. We check the board email several times during the day. If somebody sends that, you know, at 9:15. We've checked it at 9 o'clock. Don't check it again until 11, but their cutoff for trying to talk to you was noon. We are just sending it out. Then, you know the board is saying, "Why did it take you so long to send it to us?"

We are not just looking at, we don't get a pop-up that says there's a board email. We are doing our emails, your emails, and the other work. We typically look at your emails three to four times a day. We just space it out over time, but there are some things that might be time sensitive that you are looking for that we don't know. I am not advocating for either one. I'm saying that we can respond to each of those. I just want to make sure that we are bringing up again what you have requested in terms of, should we have our own email addresses? We can still monitor your individual email addresses if you want us to do that. It is just a way of the public communicating with you individually or directly.

BARKE: What percentage of emails that you get to the board, do you actually not have to forward to us? What percentage are you actually getting rid of? Is it 10, or 20, or half of them?

BOYD: In terms of the junk, it would be like asphalt repair. Those types of scenarios.

SISAVATH: We have better masks.

BARKE: Right, right, right, right, right. Right.

BOYD: Yeah. Vendor type things like that. I'd say probably 20-25%.

BARKE: If we took our own emails what we would do when we got those, we would forward them back to. We wouldn't know if you actually had better masks or an asphalt contract.

GOMEZ: They would capture those. Right. Isn't that what you were saying?

BARKE: Unless we choose to take our own. That's what we're trying to decide. Do we want our own, or do we want them to continue to filter them?

BOYD: I can check with IT. I do believe, well, I'm not sure but.

SPARKS: Why can't all of them be forwarded to us? We can filter them.

BARKE: That is an option. What I seeing is what percentage of junk are we going to get that we don't want to see?

SPARKS: You should delete it.

BARKE: Or send it back.

SPARKS: Then you are not serving as a gatekeeper. Then we are the gatekeeper. You know what I mean?

BOYD: Again, that's up to you.

SPARKS: Not that you mean to be. I am just saying.

BOYD: That is your, you know, in terms of, yeah, that would be.

BARKE: Can we all make individual decisions? Let's say Beckie wants her emails, but I don't. Or, do we all have to decide we either want them or we don't? Do we have to be consistent? I'm just trying to gather information.

BOYD: Yes. You would have to be consistent.

BARKE: Okay. Okay.

SPARKS: Okay. To me, that's the solution of this whole discussion is just forward all of them. The one that goes through that you get for all of us. Then you just forward that one to all of our OCBE emails. Then we go through as individuals and we answer.

BOYD: That is what we do now.

BARKE: That is what they are doing. That is what they are doing now.

SPARKS: So, the status quo, basically, except.

BOYD: You want to do status quo? We can do status quo.

SPARKS: Except forward all of them to us instead of filtering the asphalts and the –

BARKE: You want the asphalts?

SPARKS: Well, I mean, I am just saying. Then you don't feel that you don't have to filter. You don't have to spend time on that.

BOYD: It's no different if you're clicking on it to forward it to you, or you're clicking it to delete it, so it's no different. It's not a big deal.

BARKE: Does everybody want to remain status quo? Is that what I'm hearing? Ken? Beckie?

GOMEZ: I would rather have my individual one, because I have so many things that I need to keep separate. That would be my preference. But, you know.

BARKE: I kind of go back and forth. I'm always looking to try and figure that out. I know that's why I haven't come back with an answer. I'm still trying to decide what I prefer. In an ideal world if I had unlimited time, I would like to have my own and be responsible for it. At the same time, I'm busy. Having it filtered, this is kind of nice.

GOMEZ: Even if we had individual ones, there would still be the ability for you to filter wouldn't there?

BOYD: Right. Again, I did say we can give you individual ones and you still have ocbe.us. From that standpoint, we'd still monitor ocbe.us if you chose not to utilize your, the one that, you know.

GOMEZ: Our personal or whatever.

BOYD: Yeah. The individualized one. Then because it's there, people may send something there. Then it opens the door for criticism that there's been no response or no acknowledgement to a communication that went to you directly. I'm only speaking to, like you said, if we did it where everybody had it and only some of you were using that and others chose not to use it.

SPARKS: I think it's better to keep it the way it is, because something might speak more to me and another one might speak more to you. Then, you know, we can answer it as we wish basically. As it speaks to us.

WILLIAMS: Status quo allows us to individually respond to emails.

SPARKS: Exactly.

WILLIAMS: That are filtered initially through Darou.

SPARKS: Yes.

WILLIAMS: Then she sends them out individually.

SPARKS: Yes.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. If that's what we are using as status quo?

SPARKS: Yes.

WILLIAMS: I would like to continue with that same process.

SPARKS: I would too.

WILLIAMS: Beckie though, I think, did you iterate you wanted something different?

GOMEZ: I think it's more for, you know, we've been getting so many public record requests too. That would make me feel a little bit more comfortable that I didn't miss something when I was searching through my emails that would be specific to this organization. That was all. That was the other concern I had.

WILLIAMS: Okay. To my knowledge, we haven't had any PRAs in a couple months.

BOYD: Knock on wood.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Okay. The PRAs and those legal emails that threaten lawsuits, litigation, you take those as a high priority. You've been sending them to each board member in one email. All of us there.

BOYD: Right. Unless it's specific to one of you. Then we also allow let the board's council know.

SPARKS: Yeah.

BOYD: Because we don't know where you have things. We want to make sure that you're dialoguing appropriately.

WILLIAMS: Right.

SPARKS: Yeah. I think it's fine.

BARKE: Yeah. I think for now, I would like to at least maintain the status quo. If you can live with that Beckie for now?

GOMEZ: I will live with it for now.

BARKE: All right. Rather than make a decision, let's just go with the status quo for now.

GOMEZ: Who knows? The next person may decide they want something else. Who knows?

BARKE: Yes, indeed. Indeed.

WILLIAMS: Getting back to you, Ian.

BARKE: Now that we sorted through our email, sorry.

WILLIAMS: Did you get a response to your question?

HANNIGAN: Yes. Yeah.

WILLIAMS: About our email.

HANNIGAN: We have our marching orders. One of our principal players is going to be out on Friday, but we can get this going early next week.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Let's talk about what you suggested. You wanted to get this thing up and going now.

SPARKS: I think the sooner, the better. I mean, you know, it's never going to be perfect. It's always going to be evolving. I think let's get it going.

BARKE: Just stick with Lisa. She will keep you on track.

SPARKS: Yeah. I don't know if you really, you are going to be -

HANNIGAN: It makes sense, I think, well, we really need to talk about the redistricting and the information on that. If we go down that road of putting information on that website, maybe we want to wait until that process is resolved so that we are not, kind of reinventing the wheel.

BOYD: So that people who are familiar currently, don't get lost in the conversion.

SPARKS: Why can't we just put it on both?

BOYD: One goes away. Your OCBE -

SPARKS: Oh.

BOYD: It goes away. This is what your new -

SPARKS: Oh. Okay. I see.

GOMEZ: Maybe we should wait until the redistricting is done.

SPARKS: Okay.

GOMEZ: So that people that are familiar with the website can find it.

SPARKS: I see. I see.

GOMEZ: Already, you know, we are going to face some criticism that it's not transparent. If we make it very visible on the front page?

SPARKS: Right. Now it's a link on the OCDE website, correct?

BARKE: Okay.

GOMEZ: Wherever it resides. It needs to be easy.

BOYD: People that have been coming to your meetings, they know how to access and do.

SPARKS: Right.

BOYD: This will be a new introduction. Going there, my understanding is it will send them to the new website, correct?

HANNIGAN: It will still be a link on the OCDE website. You would click on that, or you can go separately. It will have its own domain at ocbe.us, but it will also still be linked on the OCDE website so that people can find it.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Can I ask Mr. Rolen to give us his legal opinion?

SPARKS: Yeah.

WILLIAMS: -On all this here? Basically, we're talking. Lisa wants to do this as soon as we can. The committee that Tim and I are on, we were kind of really processing this and going slow. I didn't anticipate it going active until after the first of the year. Could you give us, with all this dialogue and everything we're talking about, what would be the best legal counsel?

ROLEN: The best legal counsel, status quo for now. That we continue to have them filter the emails. Then you guys can address the ones you need directly. I agree with the notion that we do not go live before the redistricting. I think that would be confusing.

BARKE: Confusing.

ROLEN: Yeah.

SPARKS: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Possibly a date would be Madam Chairman, January 1st?

SPARKS: I guess January. First of January.

GOMEZ: After the first of the year?

SPARKS: Yeah.

GOMEZ: Maybe we put it on our January agenda to announce the new website, or maybe show it again. That kind of thing.

BOYD: Or, your second meeting in December so that people start preparing.

BARKE: Yeah. Why don't we have a goal to be live by January 1? Is that reasonable?

GOMEZ: Or, the first meeting.

SPARKS: Maybe not on the holiday, because you know.

GOMEZ: First meeting in January.

SPARKS: First meeting in January.

HANNIGAN: I am coming in.

SPARKS: You're coming in?

BARKE: I want you to plug it in January 1.

BOYD: That gives you all some time to get some pictures too. At the next meeting if you will come prepared, we'll take some more photos. There's some other opportunities if you have some pictures.

BARKE: That we've taken or whatever.

BOYD: We can set it up.

SPARKS: Okay. Sounds good. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Thank you for your hard work. Ian and staff here have worked very hard on this.

SPARKS: Yeah.

WILLIAMS: We've had a couple of meetings, and I appreciate everything that you've done Ian. Talk about the website. The 101 website.

BARKE: Okay. Next is 101 website.

WILLIAMS: Ian, don't go too far away. The 101 website, I have some questions regarding this. This was a new website. When did it get started?

HANNIGAN: You want me to come back up?

BOYD: Yes, please, to the microphone.

ROLEN: See what I mean?

WILLIAMS: Is it ADA compliant?

HANNIGAN: It is ADA compliant. We spun it up, I want to say about a month ago. Kind of did a soft launch on it. We shared it out with a few different groups. Some of the local district school communicators as well as internally. Then we put out an announcement, I think it was a couple of weeks ago.

WILLIAMS: Do the videos have caption underneath them? All of them?

HANNIGAN: I believe so. We use Vimeo, which is kind of our embedding platform. Everything on there should be closed captioned.

WILLIAMS: Does it have an option here for the vision impaired individuals to highlight and change things?

HANNIGAN: I want to say, I'm 95% certain that we are there. I really want to, before I give any information that might not be accurate, I want to make sure and talk to my team and make sure that we've run it through our checks. We do have software that checks that.

WILLIAMS: Our new board website will have all these features? ADA compliance?

HANNIGAN: Oh, 100%.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. There is a lot of these attorneys out there who are filing lawsuits against individuals and their websites, because it's not ADA compliant.

HANNIGAN: Yes.

WILLIAMS: And guess what? I got one of those scams. He went out to many, many colleagues. This attorney from San Diego. I learned a lot about ADA compliance for websites. There's actually applications you can download. They automatically do it. Now I am at 95% compliance. Google is only at 70%. All of my videos now have a caption on it. I pay like \$5 for each video. I just want to make sure that this department's protected against any of those lawsuits. That all of our websites are ADA compliant.

HANNIGAN: I'm really glad that you brought that up. I do want to go back and I will get you an answer, but this has become a main driver for our web design. Initially, you know, when we redesigned the OCDE site back in '16, '15- '16, we were thinking, okay, how can we make a cool site, but also make it mobile responsive? We had these ideas. Then we got into kind of WCAG compliance, which is the ADA and really became invested in it. We had a couple members of our team trained on it. We started out from a place of, how can we be compliant with this thing? This is another thing we have to deal with too. A lot of this is really good principles. For example, you know, for folks in the room. If you lack fine motor skills and can't use a mouse, can you tab through the site? Can you have a reader? Do you alt tag your photos? If you come across a photo and you are visually impaired, it has to be able to read it to you. A description of the photo. For all of our sites, we have to alt tag our photos. Like I said, we started from a place of, okay, how can we can be compliant with this to really embracing it, because we want everybody to access our site. We want every, you know, user to have a good experience on it. I will just say that I'm going to look into this. I'm going to make sure for 101, but I would say that is the primary driver in our web development.

WILLIAMS: Good. That is important that we protect the Department from those scam lawsuits by those law firms out there. It could end up being tens of thousands of dollars that you pay.

HANNIGAN: We are certainly familiar. Especially colleagues and other public agencies that have been hit with claims.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. Very good. For the site itself, in reviewing some of the content there, there's some disagreement with the content. Who writes the actual content?

HANNIGAN: It was a collaborative effort spanning a couple of different divisions.

WILLIAMS: Okay. If there's a disagreement in this website in the content, how do we get it changed?

HANNIGAN: Certainly, open to feedback. If you want to, you know, pass feedback along. This is a new site. This isn't a, you know, as I said, we never dust our hands and say, "That's it." We want to keep a site like this going, we have to keep current certainly. I would say if there's feedback, we definitely want to hear it.

WILLIAMS: Who owns the domain?

HANNIGAN: Owns the domain? We would own the domain.

WILLIAMS: Is it a registered trademark, these domains and the website itself?

HANNIGAN: Well, the URL is through OCDE. All of our, an array of sites are, you know, newsroom.ocde.us, 101.ocde.us, so it's all part of the domain that we own.

WILLIAMS: This one is on a domain called 101.ocde.us. Is that right?

HANNIGAN: That's right.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Whose idea was this?

HANNIGAN: I'll defer to Dr. Mijares, but it was a goal we talked about to, you know, as in the name states, "to unpack complex education issues."

MIJARES: Yeah. I will say that we have had, you know, multiple requests for information. We don't want to usurp what the districts are supposed to do with their publics, but we feel that we can help districts if we can, you know. This is seminal work right now. We are expecting it to get bigger. We can help districts. Ian spends time with the public information officers from the school districts, those that have one, not all districts do. It just came. Born out of a need to communicate. Like tonight, you know, with the parents that came forth and expressed themselves. That is what we want to do. We want to make sure too, that people understand the law. What does the law say about different aspects of the curriculum? How are we held accountable? Sometimes people think, "Are you guys making this stuff up? Who is behind all of this?" Frankly, much of what we do if not all of what we do, is embedded in the law. That's another reason why we thought this would be a good idea.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. Thank you. I think important right now is we have Mr. Johnson on Zoom.

BARKE: Thank you, Ian. Sorry to cut you off. Saved by the bell.

WILLIAMS: Hi, Doug. Good evening. Thank you for being here. I know you are running around like a chicken with a head cut off here. You are just going from city council, to county groups, and to other government entities. We want to thank you for everything. Your YouTube video was well received. It was viewed by many different people. There were some comments that are important. As part of the committee that was handling re-districting, Mr. Rolen is going to ask you to listen to some of the comments from some of the people who came tonight. Be aware of those. There was also a concern about what do we put on our website. We are going to come back November, excuse me December 1st with another public hearing, with some more maps. We are going to have public input.

It looks like, looking at the strategy for the future, that we are not going to vote on the final map until the second or third week in December. I wanted to give you some heads up there. There is also a request regarding a software application that the citizens can download and kind of play with the maps. Trustee Gomez was sharing. She is a member, as you know, from the Tustin City Council where your company just completed her districting map. Those are some issues. Could you care to comment on any of those, Doug?

BOYD: It's on mute.

SPARKS: I can't hear you.

BOYD: You are on mute.

WILLIAMS: Doug, you are on mute.

BOYD: He's looking now.

WILLIAMS: In Zoom, it's at the lower left-hand corner, I believe.

SPARKS: Yep.

GOMEZ: Do they have to unmute him though?

SPARKS: It says it is unmuted though.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. Doug, hold on. It looks like you are un-muted, but we are not hearing you at all. Maybe that may be at our end here. Just give us a couple.

HENDRICK: [Inaudible]

BOYD: His microphone?

GOMEZ: He needs to select a microphone.

ROLEN: He needs to choose a microphone.

BOYD: Choose a microphone on your end.

SPARKS: How does he do that?

WILLIAMS: How does he do that?

ROLEN: It'll give him an option.

SPARKS: Where?

ROLEN: It should come up on the Zoom. There we go.

GOMEZ: There he goes.

WILLIAMS: I didn't know about that.

SPARKS: Which ones should he select?

GOMEZ: Whatever is on his end. We can't tell him what to do.

BOYD: Whether he is using his computer or?

WILLIAMS: I appreciate his effort.

BOYD: They are sending him messages.

SPARKS: Okay.

JOHNSON: Can you hear me?

SPARKS: Yes.

JOHNSON: Okay. Good. Excellent. I was just noting, just to be aware. In this crazy year, between COVID and state laws changing and deadlines changing, we have a very tight timeline as you are all aware. As you are scheduling things be careful. The election dates and thus our deadline to finish this process are not moving. I would do that. In terms of an online tool, yes, we can make a tool available. I would note, it is a big project to try to draw a county. The tools are aimed at simplicity and they work great in the cities, but it is a lot of work to try to use one of those tools to draw a county map just so that folks are aware of it.

WILLIAMS: You are suggestion we may not have it?

BARKE: What about if they just kind of play around with an existing map? Let's just say they take one. You know, I heard somebody in here tonight, they wanted me to put Cypress back on. What about if they just, is it easy for them just to play with whatever is there rather than recreate? Is that available?

JOHNSON: We can do that. I have folks on my team that would essentially, we would draw in the different maps first. Then people could use those as templates. Again, you know, if you move Cypress, then something else has got to move and then something else has got to move. Then something else has got to move. It is a big task. The weakness of the tools when you get to the county level is it's hard to pick out city by city, because picking census block by census block. As you all know very well, the cities have some funky borders. We are happy to put it up. I just want the public to be aware. It is a big, big challenging project to try to draw county wide maps using those tools.

BARKE: Is it simpler if the community submits ideas to you that they prefer? Then you can look through the ideas and come up with another option or two? Is that a better method?

JOHNSON: No. We just don't have the manpower. We are happy to have them submit ideas to the board. You know, the board could go through them and see which ones might be of particular interest.

BARKE: Okay.

ROLEN: Dr. Johnson, the consensus of the board after some discussion was that members of the public would be able to submit maps through the board staff through the Department staff I should say by November 12. Those would be made available to the public for discussion at the December 1 meeting. Any map that was submitted by staff would go through the same, through the public, would go through the same analysis of population balance and racial composition that you've done.

JOHNSON: Okay. Yeah. That timing would definitely work. Like I said, we can get the tool up and running, and people can take a shot at it.

BARKE: Sounds fair.

GOMEZ: I think that's all we can ask.

BARKE: Okay. All right. I appreciate that. That sounds fair.

BOYD: How about Lisa's question about the?

SPARKS: I just had a question. When I was looking at your video, on the existing map that you had up. It didn't seem like it was correct to me. I'm a trustee for Area 5. Newport Beach all the way down south to San Clemente, then all the way up to Rancho Santa Margarita and Mission Viejo and Lake Forest, parts of Lake Forest. Anyway, Newport Beach was not on that for my district, on that existing map. It looked like maybe it was incorrect.

JOHNSON: It was the map that was given to us. It was my understanding that that was the current map.

SPARKS: I don't think so. You might want to cross check that.

BARKE: I am not sure it matters though.

SPARKS: I don't know if it matters.

BARKE: For your purposes, does it even matter?

GOMEZ: Not really, because it is going to change.

JOHNSON: I was going to – I don't think.

SPARKS: Well, if they're looking at the existing map and then, you know.

BARKE: Adjusting it.

SPARKS: Adjusting it. I think it does matter. I mean, you need to have the correct existing map to start with. I think. I mean, I could be wrong, but I think maybe you should cross check it. I noticed that in my area one of my major cities, didn't look like I was represented. That's where I live actually, so it's kind of important to me.

JOHNSON: Yeah. I was just looking. The big impact that would have is if it meant that the current map was population balance. It wouldn't change that, because other districts are driving the deviation. As you've seen in our maps, we pick up Newport Beach into that district and I believe in all of them that we do.

BARKE: In one, two, and three.

SPARKS: Yeah, no, I know, the new ones. It just struck me, because I just was elected four years ago, or three and a half years ago. It just struck me. How did that happen if Newport Beach wasn't one of my cities?

JOHNSON: Yeah.

BARKE: Don't say anything. You might have to resign

SPARKS: Right. Right. Oh yeah. I could resign, too.

GOMEZ: We can't lose another board member right now.

BARKE: I had enough drama for today. Having an empty chair. Do we have any other questions for Mr. Johnson? Anybody? Beckie?

WILLIAMS: I'm fine.

GOMEZ: I think it was just. Mr. Rolen, you are going to communicate with him about some of the other comments we had?

ROLEN: Yes.

GOMEZ: We had a pretty robust discussion, and there were a lot of public comments. One of the suggestions was just for you to listen to the public comment portion, about 30 minutes. Not all of it was about redistricting, but I think that might help inform you as to what the thought process is at this point.

BARKE: Can we splice that out for him to make it easy so that he doesn't have to go back and forth. Can we splice out the public comment regarding redistricting?

GOMEZ: It might take longer to do that, you know.

SPARKS: He could just fast forward.

BOYD: He could just Zoom forward. He could fast forward.

BARKE: Yeah. Okay. All right. If nobody else has questions, he probably has a million things to do I imagine.

GOMEZ: Greg can follow up with him, too.

BARKE: Okay. Are you good, Greg?

ROLEN: I am.

BARKE: All right. Thank you very much for joining us.

SPARKS: Thank you.

JOHNSON: Good to see. Sorry I couldn't be there in person. I appreciate it.

SPARKS: We'll see you in December. Thank you.

JOHNSON: Bye, bye.

BARKE: Alright. Are we to Superintendent Announcements?

MIJARES: Very quickly. First of all, as you probably know, Tustin Unified School District has a new superintendent. It's Dr. Mark Johnson.

BARKE: Has that been officially approved by the board?

MIJARES: Yes.

BARKE: Excellent.

MIJARES: He currently serves as a local superintendent in the Fountain Valley School District, or he did serve. He's transitioning over to Tustin. I don't know. Well, let me see. I guess he'll begin on November 15th.

BARKE: Oh, wow. He is a Los Al guy. He taught my kids.

MIJARES: Oh, really? Yeah. That's right. Of course. Of course. Yeah. In fact, he was in Los Al. He was an assistant principal there, continuation high school principal, superintendent of educational services. Actually Mari, you are correct. He's going to start officially. I think he's beginning the transition, but January 2022.

BARKE: Okay.

MIJARES: Yeah. Then I wanted to also share with you that, lets me see here we are moving on to time. The local commission honors Orange County Department of Education's alternative education students for their personal reflections of hope and resiliency. Thank you to Vern over there, Vern Burton. Basically, the students who are in our care, who are locked up. These are students at Fischer and Rio contiguo schools. Many of them come from, you know, homes and lifestyles and so forth that are very tragic. I mean, each one has his or her own story. We have been lauded by many groups. For example, recently we had a group come to visit. They were the Disability Rights of California. They function under Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973. They came to look at how are you, and it's unannounced. These are mainly lawyers. They just tell you, we're going to come Monday. We want to see how you're treating your special ed students, and how you treat everybody. Most of the kids are under some form of special education. They interview the kids, so you know, there's no way you can fake your way through this. They look at probation. They look at the educational program, which is delivered by the county office in this case, OCDE.

They found that we were an example to the state. If I remember correctly, the words that they said. Again, these are lawyers mainly. They come. They appear. They don't tell you we are going to be there in 10 weeks, so you know, we can make sure everything gets vacuumed and shiny. No, they just come. We'll be there on Monday morning at 8 o'clock. I scramble. We all scramble. We show up like we did. Then they spend three days. How long were they, three days? Maybe something like that. Vern, about three days? Jeff was there. Our whole team was there. They talked to teachers. They talked to probation officers. Possible parents, but when they talk to the kids, the kids are the ones that tell them the truth. Frankly, the kids said that they were very commendatory to our staff. They were talking about the enrichment of their instructional program, so that was awesome.

In this particular case, it's a little bit different than that. A local commission honored OCDE. It honored them because, or us and this particular program, because our students had written reflections of hope and resilience. You know, topics like Hope in Me; If I Could Change the

World; What Do Others Think About Me? Hope for the Hopeless. There are some essays if you care to read them, I can provide them for you. I just wanted to commend our staff for the amazing work that we do with our students. I truly believe that they treat, or that we as a staff treat our students as though they were our kids and do everything we can to make them successful.

I do believe that Chief Probation Officer Sentman does a great job. You know, sometimes the gears grind a little bit, because you deal with students who might come in with a chip on his shoulder or her shoulder. We've got to work through that. But the goal is of course unification. Get them through this, and they serve their time. In really extreme cases, they might continue their sentence beyond the juvenile hall and will have to then fulfill their sentence in an adult facility. They will then transfer on to state prison. It's, you know, it's just really tragic because they made some wrong turns in life. We are trying to get them back into life. Help them to fulfill their dreams as people. That was one thing I wanted to let you know of.

Then, also to acknowledge that, let's see here. I don't know if you are familiar with Janice Munemitsu. She was the person who, her aunt formed a relationship with Sylvia Mendez in the famous Mendez versus Westminster lawsuit, which ended segregated schools. It ended "separate but equal" in California. Then Earl Warren went on to be on the Supreme Court as the chief justice. Brown versus Board of Education followed a few years later, which ended desegregation across the United States. You know that. Janice has written a book. It's called, "The Kindness of Color." It's about the case. It's very prominent, because it's right here in our backyard in Orange County. She has given us copies of those books. I can make sure you get a copy if you'd like?

BARKE: Great.

SPARKS: Yeah.

BARKE: Love it.

MIJARES: Also, let me just say. This is a fun one. Atlanta Braves, Freddie Freeman, you know, he just hit a home run. Was that yesterday? Ken, he was born in Villa Park, excuse me. He graduated from El Modena High School. He plays for the Braves. Amazing player. He was five-time All-Star, Golden Glove Award, MVP. It was wonderful to see him on television. I'm just hoping that maybe he'll come to the Angels, because he's a free agent now.

SPARKS: That's right. We need him.

MIJARES: Godinez High School in Santa Ana received some unexpected kindness from helpful Honda. You see these things all the time, or they do something for a system. They outfitted their entire mariachi group with new uniforms and helping them along with instruments. We continue to move forward. We are going to have an appropriation to get a little deeper in the instructional program. You'll see it when we get into the interim report, but I think we informed you that the Multi-Tiered System of Support has been funded again by the state. We'd like to make sure that you understand what that means. MTSS it's often called, because it gets convoluted with it being a curriculum, which it is not. It's really a framework is what it is. To really help districts

understand, you know, what are the things that are necessary in a comprehensive instructional program? Some students need a little help, and they do well in school. Some need a little more, and then some need a lot of help. How do you structure that experience in a classroom to make sure that nobody falls between the cracks and that nobody disengages from school? It's very much a rooted not only in what is good pedagogy, but also parental engagement. That's all I have for my reports for right now.

BARKE: Thank you. Deputy Superintendent?

BOYD: Yes ma'am. Just point of clarification. Dr. Mijares, I received a thing while you were talking. There was a press release on the announcement of the new superintendent for Tustin, but the board doesn't take action until November 15th.

BARKE: That is what I thought.

MIJARES: Okay. Okay.

BARKE: Yeah. I thought they had [inaudible].

BOYD: The board did their selection.

BARKE: Yup. Yup. They just have to vote.

MIJARES: Can I say one more thing? I wanted to give a salute to Tim Shaw. From day one, his decorum with staff as you heard him call that out has been very collegial. He has been really thoughtful and kind in his interaction with our staff. I really appreciated that.

BOYD: Most definitely. Thank you. I mentioned that the next board meeting would be Wednesday, December 1st, at 5:00 PM. Submission deadline is November 12th. For the second meeting, we will be polling you. The dates that we are looking at are on the eighth or the ninth of December. That would get you a week before the 15th, which is the deadline that you are trying to reach. Darou can reach out to you in the morning unless you all have your calendars now with regards to that. Those are the two dates. It would be, the following Wednesday is the eighth.

WILLIAMS: What dates?

BARKE: The eighth works for me. The ninth, I have a 5:30 already. I would have to move that.

BOYD: The eighth works for you, Beckie?

GOMEZ: The eighth and the ninth both work. I will make them work.

WILLIAMS: Lisa was just telling us that she's not going to be back until the 12th.

SPARKS: I can Zoom in for both those meetings.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: You have good internet?

SPARKS: I hope so.

WILLIAMS: Where will you be?

SPARKS: I think so. Madrid.

WILLIAMS: Madrid. Oh, late. Yeah.

SPARKS: Yeah. I should be fine.

BARKE: Are you good with the eighth, Ken? Does the eighth work?

GOMEZ: Take a nap.

SPARKS: Yeah, I know.

WILLIAMS: I can good for the – I am good anytime.

BARKE: Alright, so why don't we do the eighth if everybody is agreeable?

GOMEZ: I can do either.

BOYD: Okay, so we will confirm the eighth?

BARKE: We are thinking 5 o'clock. I am going to mark it off here. Is that what we are thinking?

BOYD: Yes ma'am.

BARKE: Okay.

BOYD: As a reminder, our office will be closed next Thursday, November 11th for Veteran's Day. We will also be closed on November 25th and 26th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

BARKE: Okay.

BOYD: That's why your board packets will be going out just prior to Thanksgiving so that we can.

WILLIAMS: The deadline for November is what again?

BOYD: November 12.

WILLIAMS: November 12.

GOMEZ: Before the first.

WILLIAMS: That is because of Thanksgiving.

BARKE: We can do a placeholder. Then just like I'm concerned about the [inaudible].

BOYD: Delivery for your board packets would be on Wednesday the 24th. Everybody going to be in town November 24th?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, GOMEZ: Yes.

BOYD: Okay. Just making sure in case we had to make any adjustments. Then Renee.

HENDRICK: I wanted to share with you just a couple items. Next meeting, you will be seeing the first draft of a new funding that we will be receiving that we hadn't quite counted on. We'll give you that. It's on expanded learning. Also, we did receive some COVID mitigation funds that we hadn't counted originally in our budget that we would spend over two years. You will see that next month at the first interim. That is \$17 million.

BARKE: Wow.

HENDRICK: Part of that was because county offices didn't get the protection for ADA. Because we still run the largest state program, we got a bigger chunk of the county pie.

BOYD: Which program is that?

HENDRICK: That is for ACCESS and special schools, our student programs. It's based on the ADA where you seek for that. Those were all new developments for us. You will be seeing those in the next budget. Then our Skyview program, which is part of the ACCESS program. They've been very lucky to receive, they will be receiving a \$50,000 donation that you guys will see next month. We don't have any details on it yet. It is from Hi-Chew, so Nina we'll be getting hold of you. They would like some type of picture opportunity. We are trying to figure out how we'll do that. We just found out about that in the last day or so. They want it more specifically. Skyview will be in our new site - the Harbor Learning Center North. They would like to be able to see that. We have a lot of exciting things for that program, food pantry and stuff. They would like to be part of that. Skyview is a program that serves our younger students in ACCESS and caters mostly to homeless and at-risk students.

WILLIAMS: Thank you for identifying these grants and funds and letting us know. That makes it a lot easier for us.

HENDRICK: Yes. Unfortunately, I don't have a lot of details. It Would help if I had more details.

BARKE: Can I ask one general question? People just randomly ask me, “When you are getting these COVID funds, are they tied to anything? Is there anything that you have to do?” People say, you know, are we getting these mandates to get the funds? I get that question. Can you give me a general answer to that?

HENDRICK: Yes.

BARKE: Thank you.

HENDRICK: Well, you can ask for Vern and his team right now. They are not consistent, and they are different. Every time you report on them, and we have monthly and quarterly reporting on each of them. We have about, I gave you a list a couple of months ago, I think we've added three new ones to that. You normally have to show what activity you're doing for the funds. Then show the measures of how that activity is working. There is quite a bit of development. Our frustration is that the state has not been very clear. They're very late in their timing. This last one, they we're saying the plan will come next month. We just found out how much money it was going to be, what you're supposed to do with it, then also that you had to do it at two separate meetings.

Our last plan, we didn't have to do it at two separate meetings. Those are the types of things that are very frustrating. Patty Banuelos who is, you know, our budget manager. Every single time we do reporting, they change the format. I think with the plans, it's the same issue. It's been very, very difficult for the team, but there is a lot of accountability. People say there's not. They would have to look at those reports. It is very, very demanding at times. It would just be nice if they were more concise.

BARKE: Is there any way to make that transparent to the public? Showing them what we have to do to comply with in order to get the money?

HENDRICK: There's reporting that's done on that. We can look at ways that we can maybe look at posting that. A lot of those plans are part of our board documents. You see those plans. I think at the state level, I think what happens is the state gives some type of plan then the federal government comes back and says, “No. You now need to do X, Y, and Z.” They amend the plan also. They come back and tell us, “Oh, you have to now do this.” Those plans have all been coming to the board, and they have been posted as part of the board packets for the majority of those. I think so far, they've all had separate plans if I'm not mistaken. There is a way to show that.

BARKE: Okay. Yeah. I would just love to see that, or be able to post it so that we could just tell them they could go to the website and find it.

HENDRICK: Right. This last COVID mitigation though, that was part of the Budget Trailer Act. That actually doesn't have a plan with it. We just got an apportionment letter that says, “Here you go.”

BARKE: Right. Okay.

HENDRICK: It is more complicated.

BARKE: Okay. Thank you. Beckie?

GOMEZ: Just a couple of quick things. The CSBA meeting will be, the delegate meeting will be in December before the state meeting. Then OCSBA had a meeting last week, a dinner meeting. They also had a speaker talking about mindfulness. They also had a reception for new board members. I'm sorry that the rest of you couldn't attend, because it was really a good speaker. I also visited some of the ACCESS schools, so thank you very much for the invitation and showing me around. I was able to go to Skyview. We were able to see the food pantry. Visit some classrooms, and students were very excited to have visitors. They were very chatty and very willing to share.

The other thing I want to mention. There was an article. This is from the *LA Times* from October 13th. It was talking about how the pandemic sparked an artist to help kids cope. One of the things, one of the programs that we saw was something we approved two months ago, I think in our program for the ACCESS students. There was one young man who I talked to right as I was entering the building, and he was showing me his paintings. He told me about his paintings. He was explaining that it really helped him share his feelings and help him understand. When I went in and talked to the teachers, they were saying that he hardly spoke. He was not very communicative, but this art really kind of helped him express himself and be a little bit more. In fact, one of the counselors through her hands on her hips and said, "He hardly talks to me, and he talked with you for five minutes," type of thing.

I think that's the power of finding a different way to engage students. I just want to tell you that as we approve these programs, it's good to see what's actually happening as a result of those things. Again, I want to extend my appreciation to seeing some of the classrooms and some of the programs, so thank you very much for your hospitality. That's all I have.

BARKE: Okay. I have a couple of questions. One is general, and I brought it somewhere. NSBA, we haven't paid them in two years, but I noticed I'm still getting their magazine. Why are they sending us magazines if we are not paying them dues? NSBA, I'm pretty sure that's from NSBA.

GOMEZ: I don't think so.

BOYD: That looks like CASBO.

BARKE: Are they just advertising for NSBA? Are they part of it? See the little logo down here. I thought when I opened it, it was also. Are they just advertising on it?

BOYD: I don't know why you're still getting it. We didn't pay any dues or anything for it.

BARKE: Okay. Okay.

GOMEZ: Is it addressed to you?

BARKE: Yeah. It is. It is addressed to me.

MIJARES: Nina, they do that all the time. Yeah.

BARKE: They just send it anyway.

MIJARES: By the time you get off their list, they're not going to charge you for it you know.

BARKE: Okay. I just saw it, and I thought, oh. If it was only a year, I thought, well, somehow it got mixed, but we haven't paid them in two years now.

MIJARES: You may still get it, because they may hope that someday you'll change your mind.

BARKE: Right. Right. That's what I thought. That's what I thought.

GOMEZ: You will still be getting that.

BARKE: I enjoy it so much I'd [inaudible]. Okay. Another question I had, and it's funny. Everybody knows about the NSBA letter. That was like somehow national news. Everybody knew about that. It came to me through a friend who heard through a reporter that actually CSBA did a similar thing to Governor Newsom. Why didn't we ever see the letter if we paid dues to CSBA? Why didn't they let us know that they wrote a letter to the governor? Do you guys know that they wrote a letter to the governor?

BOYD: Wrote a letter regarding?

BARKE: A letter similar to the NSBA. You know, we want your help governor. You know, these parents are unruly. I don't know that they called them domestic terrorists, but it was a similar thing.

BOYD: I thought I saw a communication in one of the brochures or journals that came out from CSBA. You know, how we get the -

GOMEZ: I will go back and look and see if I missed something.

BARKE: Yeah. I mean, I just think that for me to hear from a reporter. What do you think about that? I'm like, what are you talking about? You know? I just think that we should know, because they are supposed to be representing us. We are paying them \$20,000 in dues.

GOMEZ: I will look and see if I missed an email, or if there is something else.

BARKE: If you can't find it, let me know. I will send you the letter. It was forwarded to me. I have it somewhere in my email.

GOMEZ: Okay. Okay. That would be good to know.

WILLIAMS: The CSBA supported the NSBA letter?

BARKE: No. The NSBA wrote to the Biden administration. The CSBA wrote to Governor Newsom a similar thing. I'm not sure that it was quite as, I'm not sure if they called them domestic terrorists and all that, but it was a similar thing. We need your help, you know, local police isn't doing their job in protecting us at meetings. Has anybody seen this letter besides me?

WILLIAMS: I haven't.

BARKE: Okay. It's out there. Yeah. I was just very surprised to kind of hear through a third party that it was out there.

GOMEZ: That's very frustrating.

BARKE: Yes.

GOMEZ: I get it.

BARKE: Yes.

SPARKS: I'd like to see that.

BARKE: Okay. I'll share it. I'll look. It's in my email somewhere. I'll share it. I think that is all I have. Anyone else?

SPARKS: No.

BARKE: No. Okay.

WILLIAMS: Move for adjournment.

BARKE: So adjourned.

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: [BARKE STRIKES THE GAVEL] 8:30. That's pretty good for us.