

**TRANSCRIPTION FOR THE DECEMBER 21, 2021, SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

BARKE: We are going to go ahead and gavel in now. I thank everyone for their patience. I am going to ask Dr. Sparks to do the flag salute please, and then, we'll get started. You may participate if you'd like. Thank you.

SPARKS: Okay, here we go. 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.

BARKE: Okay.

BOYD: Roll call?

BARKE: Yes, please.

BOYD: Trustee Sparks?

SPARKS: Here.

BOYD: Vice President Williams?

WILLIAMS: Present.

BOYD: Trustee Gomez?

GOMEZ: Present.

BOYD: And President Barke?

BARKE: Present.

WILLIAMS: I'd like to make the motion to adopt the Agenda, President Barke, with the modifications that the protocol will be an opening statement by each of our candidates for three minutes, followed by board questions, seven minutes each for each trustee; and, followed by a closing statement by the candidate, not to exceed one minute.

SPARKS: Second.

GOMEZ: Can I get a clarification?

BARKE: Sure.

GOMEZ: When you say seven minutes each, we are talking about total questions from us, not for each candidate, correct?

WILLIAMS: Board members will get seven minutes to ask questions.

GOMEZ: Okay, of all the candidates total.

WILLIAMS: Seven for you, seven for Mari, seven for myself, and seven for Lisa.

BARKE: All those in favor? All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE, GOMEZ: Aye.

BARKE: Okay, so that passes unanimously. The next question we are going to discuss openly, because Beckie brought it up, I didn't want a Brown Act violation. Beckie felt that we should ask the candidates that we are not interviewing to step out so there wouldn't be an advantage to those that are speaking later. Your guys thoughts on that?

SPARKS: Yeah. I agree.

ROLEN: I think that makes sense. Yeah.

SPARKS: Okay.

WILLIAMS: I have a couple thoughts.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: This is my third time having gone through this, and we didn't do that in the past. Mr. Counsel, if you can help us out here? None of these individuals that we are interviewing is going to be subject to any sort of worker's comp, or employment laws, or anything like that. Is that correct?

ROLEN: They are not employees of the Board or the Department. At this point, they are not. They wouldn't be covered by worker's comp.

WILLIAMS: Right. The confidentiality of the questions, there is no legal issue. It's more or less of a fairness issue.

ROLEN: It is an equity issue. Yeah.

WILLIAMS: It's an equity issue.

ROLEN: If person "A" hears question one, and the seventh candidate hears the same question repeatedly, they're at an apparent advantage.

BARKE: Well, we can discuss it some more. So Beckie, you feel we should dismiss the others so there's no unfair advantage, right? Is that your position?

GOMEZ: Yeah. I just feel an unfairness to all the candidates; that we hear what that candidate has to say rather than the candidate hearing all the other responses. That might create more of a favorable response based on what the Board questions are.

BARKE: Dr. Sparks, do you have any input?

SPARKS: I mean, I think, you know, there's all sorts of—you also have primacy recency. The first person and the last person, you know, the literature speaks to that. But, yeah, I mean, I generally agree that the latter candidates, hearing all the other candidates, would have more information. That may not be balanced and fair.

BARKE: Dr. Williams, you have something to say. I can tell.

WILLIAMS: It looks like I'm outnumbered to begin.

BARKE: I'm still considering, so I'm looking for input to make a decision.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. I didn't anticipate that. But, certainly if it is the will of the Board majority to do that, I could do that also. It's just going to make it more difficult when we have made the motion to have seven minutes of board questions each.

BARKE: Right, to have one at a time.

WILLIAMS: That's going to be really difficult to do the interview.

BARKE: Mm-hmm.

WILLIAMS: You know, my motion was to kind of do this public forum protocol; how we had the opening statement, we had board questions, and then we had the closing statement.

BARKE: Mm-hmm.

SPARKS: Is there a particular order, like, that's random, you know?

BARKE: Well, we have an order here that was put together. We have them numbered one through seven, so there is an order that's been established.

SPARKS: Was there any rhyme or reason to that order?

BARKE: Nina, was there a rhyme or reason to our order?

GOMEZ: It was the way they came in.

BOYD: This is the way that they came in.

BARKE: Okay. Okay.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Basically, it's whoever submitted their interests, and that's how they're listed that way?

BOYD: That's exactly.

WILLIAMS: Oh, okay. Yeah. The way I was going to ask questions was going to be, I'm going down, and it's a yes or no.

BARKE: Right.

WILLIAMS: Because, we only get seven minutes to do this.

BARKE: Right. Right.

WILLIAMS: So, I was going to do a supposition and then ask the question. It's a yes, no, yes, no, yes, no, so I can get the most out of my seven minutes.

BARKE: Right. Right. If we're under time constraint, that maybe preferred. What are your thoughts about that?

GOMEZ: You know, I will go with the majority. I just feel that it is going to advantage the later candidates.

BARKE: Mm-hmm.

SPARKS: The other thing we could do possibly is, we could do, like, the first question we start with the first person, the second question, we start with the last person or some random systemized order.

BARKE: Well, we can certainly do that as a trustee. We can use our seven minutes and go back and forth.

SPARKS: Right.

BARKE: We could do that. Yeah. I think-

SPARKS: To avoid what you're-

GOMEZ: That, or have everybody do their opening statements back to back to back.

BARKE: Yeah. No, I think that's what I'd like to see. I'd like to see all the opening statements back to back to back. Then, one trustee at a time, we ask our questions to whomever we want. And then, they each give a closing. I don't think there's a real advantage there.

SPARKS: Okay. Okay. I'm good with that.

BARKE: Is that good?

GOMEZ: That sounds reasonable.

BARKE: That's kind the format in this. Okay. So, we're going to stick with what we had.

SPARKS: Okay.

BARKE: Okay.

BOYD: You do have one public comment. Just for clarity, so that I know, you're going to follow the protocol that you already had identified?

BARKE: Yes.

BOYD: Everyone will stay in the room?

BARKE: Yes.

BOYD: And so forth?

BARKE: Yes. Yes. Yes.

BOYD: Okay.

BARKE: You got one public comment? Okay, all right. Whoa.

CHARLES: I'm a doctor.

BARKE: I was going to say, you must be a doctor. Whatever is written here, please come up. What is written here?

CHARLES: Where is the public comment? I'm supposed to?

BARKE: Yes.

BOYD: Go to the podium.

BARKE: You have three minutes.

CHARLES: I will not be three minutes.

BARKE: Okay.

CHARLES: I am glad that the Board decided-

BARKE: Can you give us your name since I can't read it?

CHARLES: My name is Dr. Shana Charles.

BARKE: Thank you.

CHARLES: I am one of the candidates in question.

BARKE: Thank you.

CHARLES: I am glad to listen to the board discussion and glad that you decided to take public comment on this issue. I am speaking in support of the candidates being able to stay in the room, repeating what was mentioned before we had a quorum. I would just like to put this out there. That as a candidate and a voter, actually really more as a voter in District 4 and as a candidate who knows pretty well what the chances are that someone else will be appointed to this seat, I am strongly in favor of being a voter in the room to hear all of the candidates so that I might know my colleagues here in District 4. We are all voters. And additionally, I appreciate the Board's consideration of this issue and taking public comment. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you. Okay, so we are going to go ahead and get started. Mr. Renner, why don't you come up, please, with your opening statement of up to three minutes? Next on deck, as he comes to a close, will be Paulette Shaffee.

CHAFFEE: Chaffee.

BARKE: Chaffee, sorry.

RENNER: Thank you. Is it this one or that one?

BARKE: I think the taller one for you would be good.

AUDIENCE: [Laughter]

ROLEN: Madam Deputy, Superintendent, do we have a timer?

BARKE: Lisa, you want—would you mind timing?

SPARKS: Oh, I am happy to.

ROLEN: I could do it if you would rather?

BARKE: Okay.

SPARKS: Yeah, because I need to take notes.

GOMEZ: Great. That way Lisa can pay attention.

BARKE: Okay.

GOMEZ: And she's not distracted.

BARKE: Good idea. Thank you. I'm sorry, go ahead.

RENNER: No, you're fine.

BARKE: Thank you.

RENNER: Good afternoon, Orange County Board of Education. My name is William Renner. First off, I want to say thank you for considering my application and my chance to participate in this selection for this vacancy. First and foremost, I am an educator. I am a teacher. Since I was in fifth grade, I wanted to be a teacher. Both of my parents are teachers. I saw what they could do in their respective classrooms and communities, and I knew I wanted to do the same when I grew up so that's what I did. I am currently in my sixth year of teaching. I teach in the Chino Valley Unified School District at Cal Aero Preserve Academy, which is a K-8 public year round school. We have over 1,700 students. I've taught third, fourth, and now sixth grade.

I love what I do, despite the multitude of challenges that educators have had in the past two or so years with distance learning and the pandemic in general. I have persevered through these things, because I love what I do. My students are the reason why I get up in the morning. I want to provide them with the best high-quality, 21st century education possible. I am a well-known leader at my school. I single handedly created a student council for my students, for the elementary students. We have an ASB at our school as well, so we work collaboratively with them. I have also been the parliamentarian for our school site council. I've also mentored many teachers, and I've been our teachers union representative for over five years representing our teachers with our school board.

When it came time to negotiate our contracts for the, you know, very crazy, safety precautions that we had during the pandemic, I was an essential part of that. I am just a few short months away from finishing my masters of science in educational leadership. Hopefully, to be one day—become a principal in either in Orange County or San Bernardino County where I currently work. I went to Cal State Fullerton. That's my alma mater for my undergrad in anthropology, my multiple subject credential, and now my masters. My education and philosophy is very simple. I believe that all students, irrespective of background, color, creed, ethnicity, language, ability, sexuality, gender, deserve a high quality education irrespective of where they come from or who their parents are. I grew up in La Palma, California. I'm a product of Centralia School District and Anaheim Union High School District.

My experience has taught me that students deserve the exact same chance that I got to make a difference in their communities with their K-12 education as I did. I am motivated to serve on this board by my sense of duty. I feel that we need candidates to step up who are willing to do what is best for our communities and all stakeholders in public education. I want to show you that I am the best candidate for this position. I feel that I can bring a teacher's perspective, somebody who's worked in public schools very recently to the Board, and provide that worldview, and be a voice for our communities and all members of District 4. Thank you very much.

BARKE: Thank you very much, appreciate it.

CHAFFEE: Hi, I'm Paulette Chaffee. Thanks for the opportunity to interview today. I have a very strong commitment to quality education for all students. I am an educator. I have my lifetime teaching credential from the state of California and also speech therapy credential. I've done classroom teaching, and I've also done speech therapy in the public schools, and clinics, and hospital settings. I am also a licensed attorney, licensed by the California Bar, and I have a small practice in Fullerton. No other applicant has all of my qualifications. I grew up in District 4 and went to all public schools. I spend countless hours, currently, every month on District 4 campuses speaking with teachers, administrators, and parents. My experience and dedication is what I bring to this position. Many challenges face Orange County public schools today, and I have the wherewithal to deal with them.

There is teacher retention, declining enrollment, mental health, graduation rates. There needs to be a greater focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion. A student's zip code must not be a determinant of education quality. Often, lack of quality education links a student to the prison pipeline. I am involved with the Orange County Children's Partnership currently. I'm already involved in creating better educational environments and could do so much more if I am a part of this board. I'm also part of the Orange County CARES Commission, which is doing justice through intervention and prevention. Our students are our future. I am committed to doing all I can do as a trustee of the Orange County Department of Education to make it a bright future for all of our students indeed.

BARKE: Thank you. Number three, is Tim Shaw, please.

SHAW: Good evening. I was a candidate for this seat in March of 2020 and received 34,998 votes, but who is counting? That was 6,000 more votes than the next placed candidate received in the election. I was privileged to serve on the Orange County Board of Education from the 4th District from July 1st, 2020, until November 1st, 2021. I desired to continue serving on the Board of Education, but a legal challenge compelled me to resign the position to avoid the unfortunate cost of litigation. During my time on the Board, I strove to be a trustee that empowered parents in their children's education. As board members, we can accomplish that when considering inter-district transfer requests, we could also give parents and students choices in their education by providing educational alternatives such as charter schools. The Orange County Board of Education currently has 19 chartered schools throughout the county that are providing outstanding educational opportunities for our students. While the County Board of Education does not directly decide what curriculum is being taught in public schools, our board

can provide forums to the public on the curriculum, such was the case when the Board hosted forums on Critical Race Theory, a topic that had tremendous interests from the public.

I would suggest the County Board of Education continue to provide that leadership in bringing these issues to light. I can mention also, I served on the La Habra City Council for 13 years including serving as mayor of La Habra in 2012 and 2018. I served for four years on the Orange County Sanitation District Board of Directors, and nine years on the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors including a year as chairman of that board in 2019. I worked as an adjunct professor of American government at Rio Hondo College for the last 16 years. I hold an associate's degree from Mt. San Antonio College, a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University, and a master's degree from George Washington University, and an executive certificate in public leadership from Harvard University.

During my time on the Board, I believe I developed a great working relationship with the staff here at the Department as well as my colleagues on the Board. With your vote, I'd be honored to rejoin your ranks. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you, Tim. Next, we have Shanin Ziemer, please.

CHARLES: Would you like to sanitize the mic? I will do it for you.

WILLIAMS: Nina, rather than the candidate do this, can we have the staff do this? I don't think it's appropriate for this individual to be doing that. None of you have to do any of the cleaning. We will have the staff do it, so thank you very much.

CHARLES: Pleasure. When you start following public health orders (inaudible).

WILLIAMS: I'm sorry. What did she say?

BARKE: I don't know.

GOMEZ: Let's get started.

BARKE: Yes. Go ahead please.

ZIEMER: Okay. Should I remove my mask for speaking? I think you can hear me. Yeah, you can hear me without me taking my mask off. I'm Shanin Ziemer. I live in Buena Park. I graduated from CSULB with a degree in engineering geology. I've been married for 30 years to my husband who is a professor at Cal State Long Beach. We have two kids who went through the Centralia system and then Anaheim Union High School. I went to—my mom, my kids, and I all went to Buena Terra; and then, my daughter went to Oxford. My son and I, we are graduates of Kennedy, so we have long-generational roots in our community. My mom and grandmother were also involved in community service as I was growing up. I followed their example. I have served on the PTA at my school, at my school district, and I served at the county level as well.

I've been a vice president of Fourth District PTA and a few different positions. Currently, I'm social media chair. I also was my girl scout— my daughter's girl scout troop leader. Our efforts culminated in a three week trip touring Europe, which was amazing. I served on the—I'm going to take this off, because it is hard to talk through it. I served on the county level board as one of the cookie team leaders, so when we talk cookies, I'm talking millions of cookies [laughter]. I also worked with Boy Scouts. I was my kids team mom. I've always volunteered in the arena that I was passionate about with my children, choir board, things like that. We travel frequently, because my husband has four months off a year as a college professor. During those times, we would pull our kids out of school and homeschool them for several months a year and then put them back in the public schools. I've been involved in homeschooling myself, and I know that is something that the County Board deals with quite a bit.

I have subbed in our school district in Centralia, so I have a teaching credential. I've worked in the schools, in K through six, and special ed, and resource specialist. I currently volunteer for the PTA as I said. I work with the Buena Park Collaborative. I'm on their steering committee. I volunteer several hours a week as a case manager at the community resource center in Buena Park. I think this gives me some unique insight working with our population in need and connecting them with services. Everything from diapers and food, to housing and clothing, and after school tutoring, and where can I connect to Christmas presents, and such a wide range of things; so many people in desperate need. I also am the ArtsNow ambassador for Orange County for Create California. As such, I've traveled up to Sacramento and also (inaudible) up in Sacramento and legislated—visited our legislators to advocate for education issues and issues affecting our children. I also am the Buena Park appointee to the new OC Power Organization Community.

ROLEN: I apologize. Your time is up.

ZIEMER: Okay, thank you.

BARKE: Thank you very much. Next up, we have Shaana Charles, please.

CHARLES: Shana.

BARKE: Sorry, Shana.

CHARLES: Thank you, sir. I really appreciate that. Okay. Is this one on? Nope. All right, going down here. Okay. Yes, I am Shana Charles. Good to see you again. I am a professor at Cal State Fullerton in public health. I care deeply about public health and about education. You can read my CV. I have read yours, Dr. Sparks, and I am incredibly impressed by your Google profile and health communication. It's an honor to see that. I have read yours, Dr. Williams, and I am incredibly impressed by your work in public health practice and in physician work in Orange County. I have read yours President Barke, and I am very impressed with your community work. And of course, Trustee Gomez, I've read yours as well; and, I'm very impressed to be with another dean. And of course, I'm just a lowly associate professor.

What I don't understand is why this incredible body, this group of four people who I would say, yes, I want these people to be leading the public health effort to protect our schools, does not even appear to respect the ordinance that Dr. Clayton Chau issued on December 15th. I have great respect for Dr. Clayton Chau during this incredibly difficult two years. There is a current order that says, "masks are required for all individuals in all indoor public settings, regardless of vaccination status from December 15th, 2021, today is a week after that, through January 15th, 2022," because of the Omicron variant. This is the law. This is the law in our county. I am very upset that people who took the same oath that I did when I was chair of a Fullerton commission. I wasn't even elected, because I tried to get elected and unfortunately did not make it onto the school board. I have an incredible respect for those of you that were successful in your campaigns, and I have great respect for the rule of law. I don't understand how you can break your oath to uphold the laws of California and not even follow the basic public health orders. I have to waste my time talking about this when it should just be basic, following the rule of law here.

You have this incredible opportunity to help all of the districts in Orange County promote best practices. Some districts are having outbreaks where the entire sixth grade is shut down right now. I know because my kid is in that district. I also know that at that district meeting, for the first time in my entire life as an audience member, I was threatened with violence by another person in the audience who turned around; and, this lovely woman who could have been one of my girl scout co-troop leaders when I was a girl scout troop leader as well, she turned around and said, "I'm going to punch you in the bleeping bleep you bleeping bleep." I will not say those words here on the record. That kind of threats of violence is happening in our school district meetings right now. Yet, when I look to see what you all were doing about that idea, what I saw is that you said you were trying to take on the federal government, and the National School Board Association for trying to protect parents. I'm shocked. I'm absolutely shocked. I'm shocked you are wasting your talents that way. I'm also shocked that Mr. Shaw...

ROLEN: I am sorry. Your time is up.

CHARLES: Did not resign at the last La Habra City Council meeting as he promised he would do.

WILLIAMS: Thank you. Your time is up, ma'am. If you can just go ahead and sit down? Thank you.

BARKE: Next up, we have Jennifer Kinkel.

KINKEL: Hi, good afternoon everyone. My name is Jennifer Kinkel, and I appreciate your time here today. I've been in education for 26 years at multiple levels, so I started working with infants here in our county. I am an OC resident my entire life. I was born in Irvine and went to Irvine High, went to UCI, did my undergraduate degree at UCI. Went on to do my masters at Pacific Oaks College in human development and have remained in education my entire life. I currently am a full-time faculty member at Fullerton College in the Child Development and Educational Studies Department. I'm also a member of the Orange County Childcare and

Development Planning Council that meets here at OCDE. I'm also a single adoptive parent of a five year old who is here and will attend the Fullerton School District starting next year.

I've experienced again at all levels, so starting with infants all the way up through college age, which is what I work with now. I worked at the UCI Farm Elementary School, which was on the campus of UCI. I worked there for several years as I was going to UCI and studying education. I also, my last position before I took the position at Fullerton College was a director of early childhood education for the Huntington Beach City School District. I've had a lot of experience working with LEAs, sitting in board meetings, presenting information that was pertinent to what was happening at the time. Of course, Orange County, you know, the population size as large as Utah or Iowa, we are struggling with such a large diverse body of humans. We have such diverse needs, you know, large foster youth population. And of course, the students that you're reaching by the ACCESS program.

Right now, we're at this tipping point I feel like in education. With COVID and the pause that we had in our educational systems, we have so many opportunities with things that you are providing currently like the ACCESS program. We also, of course, know that LEAs are responsible for that early intervention services and that expansion of TK through AB 22 is the prime time to be able to do that. We know that we'll save countless lives of children and finances if we can invest early. That's what this TK expansion allows us to do under AB 22. So of course, my primary belief is that parents should have school choice. We should invest in schools so that parents have options for the school that meets the best needs of their child, and I thank you for your time.

BARKE: Thank you. Thank you very much. Last, we have Carol Jensen, please.

BOYD: You can move the other mic. You can move that other mic, because it's not on. It goes to the other podium so then they're not confused. Yes. Thank you.

JENSEN: Thanks. Hi.

BOYD: You might want to lift that up just a little bit.

JENSEN: Okay. Better?

BOYD: Thank you.

JENSEN: Okay. I'm Carole Jensen. I didn't know how you were running this, so I apologize. I've lived in Buena Park. My husband actually grew up and was born in Buena Park, was one of the first students when they opened Baby Elementary in Buena Park. We were very happy to move back to Buena Park when we got married. My children went throughout the school district, went to Troy High School, very active in all of their endeavors. Anything they were doing, I was there so I was getting a real good firsthand look at how education was working in our schools. And so, I decided in 2000 to run for the local school board, Buena Park Elementary. So, I did that, and I served for 16 years. That was terrific.

I enjoyed that. I really liked serving my community. I liked being a parent in that position, because it gave me a different look at what was happening. When my term ran—when I finished with the school board, I continued volunteering in the schools. I volunteered at our local junior high three days a week. I was running the Stallion Store, which is our student recognition where they could come and spend their bucks that they got for good behavior for the PBIS program; so, I implemented that one, and I continued to run it until we hit COVID. I have not been back in the school since COVID hit, which I've dearly missed. And so, in 2020, in order to continue serving my community as a whole, not just my little school district piece, but as Buena Park as a whole, I ran for the library board and was elected.

I've been thoroughly enjoying doing that. It's a completely different outlook on how my community interacts and how I can best serve. Education wise, I do have my bachelor of science in human resources with emphasis in, sorry, very nervous, personnel management, labor relations and contract negotiations. At the time I was doing that, I was working at Disneyland and I thought, "Oh, unions, okay, I can turn this into a job." That's not the way I went. I went aerospace instead, with Rockwell and Northrop. Got married and was fortunate enough after five years of marriage to start a family and stay home, and then be able to be a volunteer and do Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts and any other activity my children were in.

My emphasis for being here today is just having served my community for, gosh 30 so odd years. I just thought it would be a nice opportunity to come and maybe serve my county as a whole a different perspective on it. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you. Okay, so now we are going to start our board member seven minutes of questions. I am going to...

ROLEN: Say again?

WILLIAMS: You'll let us know when seven minutes are up?

ROLEN: Oh yeah. I can (inaudible) seven minutes.

BARKE: Okay, excellent. So, I will start to my right with Trustee Gomez.

GOMEZ: Okay. I'm pretty much going to go in order the way that you presented just so I can keep myself straight here. And, I'm going to ask this. I'm going to just state the question once so that'll give us all more time and give you a little more time. If you want to come to the podium?

RENNER: Yep. Thank you.

GOMEZ: Thank you. In your view, what do you see as the major issue facing education in Orange County, and what would you like to do to help correct it?

RENNER: Well in Orange County, I speak from a teacher's perspective, teacher retention and the ability for high quality educators to come into our system is the greatest long term issue. I not only see that from my own perspective, but for our students. I have not taken a sub day in over

four years, because our district has had great difficulty finding any substitute teachers as well. Not only does this increase teacher burnout and teacher exhaustion, but it's not good for our kids. It's not good for our kids to have teachers who are spread so thin that they aren't able to take care of themselves as well. So, long term for Orange County schools, what I'd like to do is encourage the school districts to increase professional development training to help provide greater paid time off for teachers. Something needs to come off of teacher's plates. For example, one...

GOMEZ: I'm going to ask you to give me about five more seconds, because I got to get through everybody else.

RENNER: Oh, no problem. Yeah. Just reinvesting in our teachers. Thank you.

GOMEZ: Okay, all right, thank you. Sorry to cut you off, but I'm trying to get through everybody.

CHAFFEE: Okay. With regards to teacher retention, why do teachers leave teachers leave? Teachers leave because of unreal expectations, they feel unsafe. They are excluded from official decisions. A lot of times there is not enough staff, there is lack of respect, and there is the problem of behavior of certain students. The ways we can help this is to provide more mental health days for teachers, start teacher mentorship programs, input teacher ideas into new programs, and hire more aids for classrooms. I think the other issues that the Board needs to focus on in Orange County are diversity, equity, and inclusion. Thank you.

GOMEZ: Thank you. Mr. Shaw.

SHAW: I didn't mention my day job is with the local realtor association. One thing I see is just the unaffordability of housing for younger families in Orange County. People in their thirties and forties with their young kids, can't afford a home. They move out of state, and we're going to be experiencing a challenge of declining enrollment exacerbated by having very controversial curriculum and other practices imposed at our local school district that will compel some parents to take their kids out of the traditional public school system. Between people moving out with their kids, and people pulling their kids into homeschooling and others, we've heard at board meetings, talk of that. I think we will be looking at a challenge of declining enrollment across our school districts in the county, so we need to address that by offering choices to those parents.

GOMEZ: Okay. Thank you.

SHAW: Thank you.

ZIEMER: I see a different major problem in our schools and in our children. Mental health issues are rampant throughout our schools right now. In my local school district, there have been several suicides by children. Some were kids I knew directly, and it's heartbreaking. I think we need to do more to support our students' mental wellbeing. I think that helping our students be mentally healthy would also help our teachers, and help our teachers retain. It reduces behavioral issues and challenges that teachers face in the classroom. I really believe that we need to focus on having more psychologists and psychiatrists available to our students in the schools. Looking

at alternatives like restorative justice, and processes that do not penalize children, but seek to help them heal and repair situations that are causing children to act out. And, more looking at how to integrate social/emotional learning into our curricula to support our students' mental wellbeing.

GOMEZ: Thank you. I have two minutes left I'm being told.

CHARLES: Okay.

GOMEZ: [Laughter] This is like speed dating. Go for it.

CHARLES: Yes. And. I think the largest threat right now, for this six months, for the duration of the period of this provisional appointment is the Omicron variant. It is the public health crisis we are facing. It's incredibly important that we follow the basic things that we know help stop the spread. That even five year old's are able to do, which is put on a mask according to the rules of the public health officer. I also think that disrespect to school board members is important. That same woman that threatened me, a sitting school board member mentioned from the bema, the dias, excuse me, that she was threatened by people by email that were sitting in that audience, and people cheered. If you don't think school board members are being directly threatened, you haven't talked to any school board members lately. They are being threatened. They are on the front lines, and I do not think that Trustee Marilyn Anderson of the Placentia-Yorba Linda School District deserves that. I do not.

GOMEZ: Okay. I'm going to ask you to—thank you very much. Jennifer.

KINKEL: All right. I'm hurrying. (Laughter) Thank you so much. I would say in terms of Orange County, the biggest need serving our community is the diversity of student and the preparation of teachers. I know with a lot of teacher prep, there's lots of focus on curricula, but not a lot of focus on behavioral health so that would be what I would look into here today. Thank you.

GOMEZ: Thank you.

JENSEN: I'll be very fast. I think that one of the biggest issues is the achievement gap. I think we need to let the high students fly, and we really need to help the low students. And by doing that, you can do it in smaller classrooms. You can do them in smaller, just groups, pull out sessions. There are lots of ways to do it. One of the big ones I like that I've seen, you pull sorry, the troublemakers out of the classroom and you put them together, and you have a small class of them and somebody who's really on them, and can help them in all of their subject matters. That helps all the other students achieve as well. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you. Okay. We are going to move on to Dr. Williams. How would you like to do your questions?

WILLIAMS: Quite differently.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: I have only seven minutes, so most of my questions will be quick, yes or no, stay seated. Please do not come up to the dias here. I want quick responses.

BOYD: Ken, Dr. Williams, they have to come to the dias for the recording and it's also YouTube. You know, it is being taped.

ROLEN: Have them line up. Just have them line up.

WILLIAMS: Have them line up.

ROLEN: Could you go in reverse order this time?

WILLIAMS: Okay. So, William Renner, next will be Paula Chaffee, Tim Shaw, Shanin Ziemer, Shana, Jennifer, and Carole. Go ahead and just, because it'll be a real quick round.

BARKE: Greg Rolen suggested that you go in reverse order to make it fair.

ROLEN: Then, we'll have another trustee do that. That's fine.

SPARKS: I can do it. I'll do it.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Again, please don't stall. If you stall and you don't respond in a quick, concise manner, I will cut you off...

ROLEN: Seven minutes.

WILLIAMS: And go on to the next candidate. The Orange County Board of Education has taken a strong leadership role in the state for strong public schools. Of all the charter schools that have been approved, which one should not have been and which ones should have been disapproved? Do you know the answer to that?

RENNER: Yes. Within past years, Oxford Preparatory Academy I'm good with. The Classics Academy, no.

WILLIAMS: The Classical Academy, no?

RENNER: Correct. No.

WILLIAMS: Okay, Mr. Shaw?

SHAW: Paulette.

WILLIAMS: Oh, Paulette, I am sorry.

CHAFFEE: The Classical Academy, no. Oxford, yes.

WILLIAMS: Classical Academy, no. Oxford, yes. Okay. Mr. Shaw, what is your stand?

SHAW: I would have approved all those.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Very good. And then we have Shanin.

ZIEMER: I will say, generally I approve of nonprofit organizations running charter schools, but I disapprove of for-profit organizations and public funds going to profit.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Thank you. Shanin.

CHARLES: Again, Shana Charles, thank you, Dr. Shana Charles. And I will follow your instructions. Yes, (inaudible) no.

WILLIAMS: You're done. Thank you. Let's go Jennifer.

KINKEL: I would have approved every charter.

WILLIAMS: Good. Carole.

JENSEN: The only one I'm familiar with is Oxford; and yes, that would've been an approval. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Very good. Stay up there, because you're all going to be, again, asked questions and do not leave. And, please don't stall. The state leg—this is again with charter schools, the state legislature has increased administrative burdens upon charter schools by legislation. Do you agree with that governance and legislative burden placed upon public school charters?

RENNER: No.

CHAFFEE: I think the legislation...

WILLIAMS: Yes or no.

CHAFFEE: I think the legislation needs to be modified.

WILLIAMS: Tim.

SHAW: The legislation is terrible.

WILLIAMS: Shanin.

ZIEMER: I missed part of the question, sorry.

WILLIAMS: Basically, it's the State Legislature and the governor signing laws that make it more difficult for charter schools to function.

ZIEMER: I think that charter schools should be very welcome to function, but I believe that they should have to follow the same regulations and laws as public schools.

WILLIAMS: Thank you.

CHARLES: Duly elected officials get to make laws, yes. That's political science.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Thank you, Shana. Jennifer.

KINKEL: My position is that it should not be more difficult to operate charter schools.

WILLIAMS: Say it again.

KINKEL: That it should not be more difficult to operate charter schools.

WILLIAMS: So, you are against legislation that puts burdens upon charter schools?

KINKEL: Correct. Correct.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Carole.

JENSEN: Some of the legislation is terrific. Other parts of it are really bad. And yes, I'd like to see them not have such a burden.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Next question for everybody. Listen up. The County Board of Education has taken a strong role in advocating for the rights of parents to direct the upbringing of their children. In public forums, resolutions, and numerous other public opportunities, we have criticized the usurpation of these parental rights by government entities. Some organizations like Planned Parenthood, the ACLU, and other left leaning organizations advocate that children should be exposed to the politics of gender identity, graphic books that have drag queens, reading and libraries to children. They have over sexualized children, and they've even promoted pedophilia by lowering the age of consent.

AUDIENCE: (Inaudible).

WILLIAMS: Do you feel the California Healthy Youth Act has enough safeguards?

RENNER: Um, I think.

WILLIAMS: Yes or no, please. I don't have much time.

RENNER: [Silence].

WILLIAMS: Okay. Let's go on to the next one. Paulette, your answer to my question.

CHAFFEE: It is a very rambling question. I'm not really sure on, on.

WILLIAMS: Very good. Thank you very much. Tim.

SHAW: No.

WILLIAMS: Shannon, or Shana.

CHARLES: My response to that is...

WILLIAMS: Thank you.

CHARLES: Wow.

WILLIAMS: You are done. Yeah.

CHARLES: Wow, sir. You have no shame.

AUDIENCE: [Laughter]

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Shawna, for insulting a sitting board member. Moving on to Jennifer.

CHARLES: Its Shana Charles. Thank you. (Inaudible). Shana Charles.

ZIEMER: That question had a lot of components.

WILLIAMS: It did.

ZIEMER: I kind of have some yes's and some no's in there.

WILLIAMS: Okay. I'll give you 10 seconds, because I'm interested in what you have to say.

ZIEMER: I believe that we need to be very cautious about the materials that are put in front of our children; that there needs to be a proper approval process that involves parents, and board members, and teachers; and that we need to always be wary of over sexualizing children.

WILLIAMS: Very good. Thank you. Jennifer.

KINKEL: Hi. Yes. Lots of components to that question, but I would say that children need to see the diversity in our community.

JENSEN: I liked her answer a lot back there, second one back [laughter].

WILLIAMS: Carole.

JENSEN: Thank you. I think that if it's within certain parameters, then all of those things can be introduced in the correct way. Overall, I think it's a parent's responsibility to do that, not the schools. Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Very good.

ROLEN: Two minutes, Dr. Williams.

WILLIAMS: Okay. This will be my last question then. The supposition is government overreach. Governor Gavin Newsom has taken emergency powers since March of 2020 when COVID 19 became a worldwide health crisis. The pandemic is now an endemic. It's been here a long time. Many believe herd immunity has been achieved. The County Board of Education along with Robert Kennedy's child advocacy group, the Alliance for Children are plaintiffs to remove Newsom's...

AUDIENCE: (Inaudible)

WILLIAMS: I'm sorry, I'm going to take the time. And will you please kindly remind the public that peanut gallery comments are disturbing to the process?

BARKE: Yes. If you would please just allow the speaker to speak, we'll get through this much quicker.

WILLIAMS: Whoever is saying things out in the public, that's very rude. These are very serious questions. The question continues. So, Robert Kennedy's Alliance and the Orange County Board of Education has filed litigation to remove Newsom's powers that he has usurpt. Litigation currently is in the Superior Court here in California. Was this litigation necessary?

RENNER: No.

WILLIAMS: Next, Paulette.

CHAFFEE: The people need a chance to speak, and decisions need to be discussed, and we go by the science is how—

WILLIAMS: You didn't answer my question, Paulette. Was this litigation necessary? Yes or no?

CHAFFEE: [Silence].

WILLIAMS: Okay. I'll move on. Thank you.

ZIEMER: I believe we could have used that money more effectively elsewhere.

WILLIAMS: Very good, Mr. Shaw.

SHAW: Yes.

WILLIAMS: We already know your response [laughter], but go ahead and give it.

CHARLES: Sir, seriously. And my comment earlier was an observation, not an insult.

WILLIAMS: Oh, it is an insult.

CHARLES: I believe you are very happy being who you are.

WILLIAMS: It is an insult. Go ahead.

CHARLES: We have 652 cases of COVID 19-

WILLIAMS: It's yes or no.

CHARLES: Today.

WILLIAMS: Thank you. You're done.

CHARLES: And that's four times what it was last week.

WILLIAMS: Shaana, you're done. Thank you very much.

CHARLES: Shana, sir. Dr. Shana Charles.

WILLIAMS: You're being rude. You're being rude and an egotist.

CHARLES: I'm answering the question that Gavin Newsom..

WILLIAMS: Jennifer, you are next.

CHARLES: Has used illegally granted powers authorized by the California Legislature and therefore, no.

BARKE: Thank you [strikes gavel].

WILLIAMS: I think I get my time back. How much time do I get back?

ROLEN: About 30 seconds.

WILLIAMS: Thirty seconds. Okay. Jennifer, your response.

KINKEL: Okay. And to clarify the question is?

WILLIAMS: Is the litigation necessary...

KINKEL: From here?

WILLIAMS: To remove emergency powers from the governor that he has usurpt?

KINKEL: I would say no.

WILLIAMS: Carole.

JENSEN: Being that this is Orange County, I understand it. I support issues that go with it. I don't know that I would've done that, but someone needed to, so thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

WILLIAMS: And that's it for my questions.

BARKE: All right. We are moving on to Dr. Sparks. If you would start in reverse order, I think that would be appropriate.

SPARKS: Yes. I would ask for reverse order. First of all, I just want to say thank you to all the applicants who put your name kind of out there and for your commitment to serving the community, parents, and children of Orange County, and your involvement in the schools. It sounds like you all care about, you know, our kids and lifting them up, so I appreciate your efforts to come here today. My question is going to be a little more deep dive on one particular issue. I want to know in 30 seconds or less, because I don't have a lot of time. Maybe I have 45 seconds per person, I guess. I want to know your stance on public charter schools in terms of creating competition for our districts in terms of the high tides, lifting all the boats. I want to know your philosophy of public charter schools starting with number seven, Carole Jensen, and then going backwards. Thank you.

JENSEN: Thank you. I have no problem with charter schools. I believe all of our schools should be doing their best to provide for all of our students. It's not a one size fits all. I like that you can transfer between your own schools and your own districts. I love that you can transfer into other ones. That is one of the things I loved with Fullerton Joint was you could pick which one you wanted for what your child's strengths were and what you liked. If you didn't like it, you could still transfer out, and there is a process to do that. I think it works well, so I don't have a problem with charters. Thank you.

SPARKS: Ms. Kinkel.

KINKEL: Thank you so much. I am a huge proponent of charters. I worked in the Huntington Beach City School District. I saw that the LEAs are not always the biggest proponents of charters. I do feel like in that district, as a charter applied, it did create a sense of competition, a sense of healthy competition, a place where everyone really tried to meet the diverse needs of students. That should always be our question. Our question in every decision should be, is this

good for children? Is this good for students? I feel that charter schools allow us that opportunity, and I'm a huge proponent of charters. Thank you.

SPARKS: Dr. Charles.

CHARLES: Thank you. I speak to this from personal experience. Both my kids went to a charter school early in their elementary school career. I specifically did that because it was the best place for them. This was within the LAUSD system. I've also seen some bad charters within that system that siphoned money away and then short thrifted students, and instead gave profit to shareholders. I've seen both of those things happen. I think absolutely good charter schools that focus on the kids, that are based in educational theory as our learning professors know, there is definitely educational theory that the rest of us don't know. I think they have a lot to offer. I think those kind of charter schools are great. I think Orange County has many of those great charter schools, and I appreciate their presence.

What I don't like is when we look at a for-profit model. I do not think that we should have shareholders who are profiting off of kids. I also have difficulties with online education. I'm a certified Quality Matters instructor. I have been trained in what is good online education at the collegiate level and the higher education level. Then, when I saw what my kids had to do with Placentia-Yorba Linda's summer school system last year, they were being required to do more in summer school than college graduates are required in online classes. There really needs to be more attention paid to the quality of online schools, but that's a part of it.

SPARKS: Thank you. Your time is up.

BARKE: Thank you. Shanin Ziemer.

ZIEMER: I support charter schools. I believe that healthy competition is a healthy option for our children. I think every child should be able to learn in the environment that allows them to expand and reach their full potential. I oppose charter schools that are privately owned, for profit organizations. I think that those monies should be going back into investing in our children and not to shareholder profits.

SPARKS: Thank you. Tim Shaw.

SHAW: I support charter schools. I find the beautiful thing about a charter school is, because there's no map on the wall with a district where you have kind of a captive audience. If the school is not doing a good job, people can very easily remove their kids from it. The school is really, you know, just like a business. You got to cater to your customer. If the school is doing an outstanding job, as we've seen so many of our charters doing, students will naturally flock there. And if they don't, they won't. That's why I just love the model of a charter school. Thank you.

SPARKS: Thank you. Paulette Chaffee.

CHAFFEE: Charter schools do provide choice for parents and for students, but they must be fiscally responsible, play by the rules, and be able to take disabled students and those of limited

English speaking. Equity, inclusion, and diversity. I do not agree with charter schools that are for profit and take money, giving it to investors.

SPARKS: Thank you. And finally, William Renner.

RENNER: Hello, first and foremost, I'm a public educator and a product of the public education system. My primary focus is on making sure our public schools are well funded and well supported. However, some public charter schools can be an option for parents and community members. I do appreciate a well-organized, vetted charter school such as Oxford Preparatory Academy. I've taken a tour of their campus and visited there. However, they are—in one of my schools in my public school district, one of them was closed down for embezzlement, so it is really important to me that these schools are fiscally responsible, very transparent, and play by the same rules that public schools do so there is an even playing field for all. Thank you.

SPARKS: Thank you. That's all I have. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you. Okay. Well, going last gives me the advantage or disadvantage of, a lot of my questions were asked. What I'm going to ask is let's go in reverse order again, just to keep it fair. In 30 seconds, tell me why you think you are the best candidate here today of the seven candidates. We will start reverse, which will be with Carole Jensen, please. Just about 30 if you need 40 seconds to tell me why you think you're the best choice for today.

JENSEN: Thank you. Having served 16 years on the Buena Park School Board, I think that gives me a good insight into how a board runs—how a good board runs. I do have the education for it. I have my bachelor's, I have my MBA. I also have my master's in governance from California School Board Association. I've been in the chairs, not at this level, although I've sat there with you guys up there for transfer decisions [laughter]. I have interacted with the Board. I think in this case it would—my background in education, and my 16 years on the board would make it a fairly easy transition to move into a chair. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you so much for your response. Next, we have Jennifer, please.

KINKEL: Good afternoon again. Thank you. This is my life's work. So, 26 years working with infants all the way up through college students. I know education very deeply at every level. I've also served on boards, so I understand the inner workings of the board. I understand the Brown Act. I've been around for quite some time. I have inner workings with OCDE specifically, have worked as a director at an LEA locally here, overseen by all of you. I have a master's of course in human development, and I continue this work every day. This is something that I will do the rest of my life, and I'm incredibly passionate about making sure that every child's needs are met. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you so much. Next, we have Dr. Charles, please.

CHARLES: We are in a unique time period. You have this provisional appointment for six months. I am not planning on running in June. I care about this next six months because of the public health emergency that is still ongoing. Because we are seeing case rates now double over

three days. Because we need to lead all districts to promote the best practices that some districts are already doing, but some are not. And that will help parents have a standardized, reasonable approach to dealing with this public health emergency that we have to deal with until this end of this school year. And God willing if we do a really good job at it, we will not have to do any of this in fall of next year. That is my goal. I would love to not be wearing this insanely, uncomfortable KN95 mask, but I am also very afraid, being high risk, of getting Omicron or of bringing it home even to my triple vaccinated child who is also high risk. It is important that we center these issues for the next six months. And you have an incredible opportunity to do that with this unique appointment.

SPARKS: Thank you. Next, Shaanin.

ZIEMER: Shanin.

BARKE: Shanin. Is it a typo?

ZIEMER: No. It's just spelled differently.

SPARKS: Gotcha. I'm spelled differently too so that's okay. All right. Thank you.

ZIEMER: I could step into this position and hit the ground running. I've traveled around the state teaching parents about participation in the LCAP and the importance of volunteering, and the importance of the ability to read the testing results, the Dashboard, and all the other things. I'm fiscally responsible and have served on boards where I have had to oversee large budgets, especially back when I was working and doing things like Caltrans projects and highway projects that were multi-billion dollar projects, so I'm capable of doing the financial work.

I have volunteered at the prison school, and I'm familiar with that. I realize that this board oversees that, so I could hit the ground running and believe passionately in public service as I volunteer like 30 hours a week. I would love to have the opportunity to give back to my community at this level.

BARKE: Thank you so much. And next, we have Tim Shaw.

SHAW: Shanin reminded me. I didn't mention in my opening, but we have six boys. We are the parents of six boys, 14 to almost four. We have one who is on an IEP, so I can bring that understanding of the needs of a special education child. I think I could also hit the ground running [laughter]. Having represented the Fourth District for a year and a half, you know, having been elected by the voters of the Fourth District, I think I'd be prepared to start on day one. And, that's it.

BARKE: Thank you.

CHAFFEE: I'm the only candidate who has a lifetime teaching credential, a speech therapy credential, teaching experience in the schools, as well as a law degree, and also sitting on various boards, like All the Arts for All the Kids, the Orange County Children's Partnership. I'm very

very familiar with every single school in the Fourth District. I grew up in the Fourth District. I volunteered at many of the schools. I've helped out with initiatives to provide COVID hotspot—I mean, providing hotspots, outdoor learning arts and online education during the pandemic. Before the pandemic, I assisted on PTA programs, and book fairs, and doing social/emotional learning with children in the district. I've spent my own money advocating for children in Sacramento. I really believe in quality education for every student, and I am the most qualified to sit in this position.

BARKE: Thank you.

RENNER: Thank you for the question. I really appreciate that. I am the only teacher here as far as I know. I'm serving in a public school myself. I find myself as a teacher, this is a vocation and I am called to serve. In my master's coursework, I have a deep understanding of educational law and policy. I feel like I'm best poised to serve the next six months with grace and help bring the Board a sense of integrity and honor that I think only an educator can do. Thank you very much.

BARKE: Thank you very much. Okay. I believe now we're going to move to the final phase where each candidate has one minute for a closing statement. Mr. Rolan, should we go back to the original order?

ROLEN: Yes, we should.

BARKE: Okay, so we are going to go back to the original order, and you have one minute each.

RENNER: Hello again. Thank you. I appreciate your in detail questions today. I know that there are a plethora of issues that are facing our public schools. I feel like my experience as an educator, I can give you that real world experience and ability to speak to those things that our students, and family members, and community members are experiencing. I would like to take this next six months to hear what the Board has to say, work with the Board on how to best affect our communities, and serve our students first and foremost. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you very much.

CHAFFEE: I have the education, background, work experience, life experience, and the best qualifications for this position. I have been on every campus in the Fourth District. I know the issues. I know the teachers. I know the administrators. I have a working relationship with the Orange County Children's Partnership. I have already done many of the working board meetings to drive the initiatives during the COVID crisis to provide more for students at each of the schools in the district. Before COVID, I worked with social/emotional learning. I was on the initiative for the Fullerton Elementary School Board with regards to mental health for the students. I have assisted in advocating for First 5 in Sacramento. Our students are our future, and I am 100% committed to making that future a lot brighter.

BARKE: Thank you.

SHAW: One of the best things Orange County has going for it is the Orange County Board of Education in my view. If you have a child trapped in a school that you don't appreciate, you can appeal to the County Board of Education for an interdistrict transfer and have a fair hearing. What a blessing that is to moms and dads across the county. If you are also having your kid in a school that isn't working for you and you want to have an alternative form of education like a charter school, thank goodness we have the Orange County Board of Education that is going to be a place where a charter school applicant will have a fair opportunity to take their charter. Because of that, we have these great opportunities out there, so I would be honored to rejoin the Board and continue that legacy and giving that opportunity to the residents of Orange County. Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

ZIEMER: I feel that public service is an important part of life. I was raised within a community of public servants in my family, and I've been giving back for more than 20 years to my community. I care deeply and think that—I appreciate that this board's goal is to benefit all students in our county and to be a final authority that supports students in some of their most challenging—some families and students, some of the most challenging times like when a school isn't working and they want to change. I believe strongly in the ability for families to have somewhere to appeal, like what this board does. I also appreciate fiscal accountability that this board serves. I believe that I could perform all of the duties of this board and mostly keeping in mind the passion that I have for benefiting all students across our county. I believe also that in the position it could expand slightly to, or I could, reach out around the community in different ways than I do now. I would appreciate that opportunity. Thank you.

ROLEN: Thank you.

BARKE: Thank you.

CHARLES: I'd like to take this time first to thank everybody who applied, but I would like to thank Tim Shaw. When I read in the Orange County Register of what he was planning on doing, I disapproved. But I said, "Okay, technically it makes sense." But then when I read in the La Habra City Council Minutes that he did not resign at the last meeting as he had stated publicly in the Register that he was going to do, and that his one action was to vote against the public health emergency as Omicron was starting to rage. I thought, no, I cannot not let him go unopposed, and submit for this, and have you all just say we're going to reappoint because he's the only option. No. I will put my name forward, because it is very important that we focus on the public health emergency that we promote what's right. I practice what I preach. I took a COVID test before I came here to make sure that I was negative because I'm in public with all you lovely people. I had been told that you don't wear masks. I couldn't believe it that you still don't under Dr. Chau's order, but okay. I strongly urge you to take a COVID test when you go home, three days from now to five. Please, stop the spread.

WILLIAMS: Madam President if I can correct the record? That was false testimony and statement that was just made by Shanaa. Mr. Tim Shaw did resign this morning from...

BARKE: She said at his last meeting though. She said at his last meeting. It's okay. Let's...

WILLIAMS: Yeah, but, he did resign.

CHARLES: And again, it's Dr. Shana, Charles and I did not make a false statement. I said, I read about him at the last meeting. Evidently, he did it in secret this morning. Great. Didn't do it at the last meeting.

BARKE: Jennifer. Thank you

WILLIAMS: Like a bull in a china shop.

BARKE: Shhhh.

KINKEL: All right. First of all, thank you all tonight for your time. I've enjoyed getting to know all of these applicants. I bring to the table a unique perspective. As an educator and as a current parent of a four year old, or just turned five, we'll be entering the school districts. I am at a point in time where I can assist with decision making that affects our young children. She'll be in District 4. I already have had her in the preschool program at Beach or at Sunset Lane. She's had some experiences there with that district specifically. And of course, I at Fullerton College am assisting all of these teachers who will be in the field at some point in order to be the best that they can be. In order to take the guidance that you've provided and turn it into real work with students in the classroom. Again, I appreciate your time tonight and thank you.

BARKE: Thank you, Jennifer.

JENSEN: Thank you. Well I think this board has a terrific position where they are able to affect children run from preschool, to pre-K, all the way through college. To know that all students are not college bound, and they don't need to be college bound. But we need to better support our students especially in the high school level, getting ready to go to a vocational school; whether it's at the junior college, or it's in a private education, a private facility, our junior colleges have terrific programs. They need to be supported as well. I think with my education, and my 16 years on the school board, and just having a passion for children, for learning, and a passion for serving my community as a whole, I think makes me a terrific candidate. And I thank you for your time.

BARKE: Thank you so much.

WILLIAMS: Is that it?

BARKE: Yes. That's it.

WILLIAMS: Madam President, may we take a break for the potty?

BARKE: We may, so we are going to be on a 10 minute break. Thank you.

[The Orange County Board of Education takes a break and returns.]

BARKE: Okay. We are back in session.

ROLEN: Okay. Let's see how-

WILLIAMS: Madam President, I would like to make a motion to lay on the table board agenda item number two before us tonight until December 30, which would be a new board meeting to make the decision on number two. At the same time in this motion, I would like to open the candidate's submission period and interviews until this Friday, December 24. If there is any new interviews, we would be interviewing these individuals on the 30th. That is my motion.

ROLEN: Is there a second?

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: All right, any discussion?

GOMEZ: I would just like to clarify what we are going to do. You want to keep it open to extend the application period? Is that what we are saying?

BARKE: Mm-hmm.

GOMEZ: And then, do another round of interviews with any additional ones then on the—you said the 30th?

BARKE: On the 30th. Yes.

GOMEZ: Okay. I understand the motion.

BARKE: Any other comments? No other comments, all right.

BOYD: I'll need to check to see if you have support for media. They came in off of vacation today to do the meeting, but I don't know if they have travel plans or if they'll be out of town next week. Our office is closed after tomorrow.

ROLEN: Until?

BOYD: Until next Monday.

WILLIAMS: We will probably have to hire a private company then, to do that.

BOYD: Well, but I'm saying, even getting your communications and everything. You know, if you're saying leave it open until the 24th, then the 24th is Christmas Eve. Christmas Eve, no staff is working. That is a holiday. We would not be...

WILLIAMS: What about the Monday? Will there be staff working that Monday?

BOYD: I'll have to check to see. I don't know who's working.

WILLIAMS: That would be the 27th.

GOMEZ: Aren't the offices closed?

BOYD: We have a skeleton crew of staff who will be here next week. I'm scheduled on vacation next week. I know Ms. Hendrick is out. Darou will be here. Is the 30th Tuesday?

BARKE: The 30th is, I think it's Thursday.

BOYD: I'm sorry.

HENDRICK: The office is closed on Thursday.

BOYD: I don't even have the—I need to open the calendar so I could see.

BARKE: Yeah, the 30th is Thursday.

BOYD: That's a holiday. This office is closed.

WILLIAMS: So it's closed on the 30th?

BOYD: The 30th and 31st.

WILLIAMS: Really?

BOYD: Those are because—bargaining, you have to be—Christmas day, New Year's Day are on a weekend.

ROLEN: How about the 27th?

BOYD: We are open Monday, but that's why I'm saying Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week are—and next Wednesday is when your board agenda will be posted for January.

WILLIAMS: We will be working on that, so the 27th or the 28th, yeah, is open here?

BOYD: Yeah. If you are extending the applicant pool, I'm saying, you would only extend it until tomorrow. In order to meet a Monday deadline, the agenda has to be posted tomorrow. It has 24 hours special board meeting.

WILLIAMS: You can't post it on the 23rd?

BOYD: That's a holiday. We are closed. The 23rd and 24th we are...

WILLIAMS: The 23rd is a holiday?

BOYD: Because of Christmas. Christmas is on Saturday, so Thursday, Friday.

WILLIAMS: It sure is nice to work for the government [laughter]. I don't get to take that time off. Okay. So, it looks like we are on a shortened time then.

BOYD: I'm you have other time off Dr. Williams.

WILLIAMS: No. I work 365.

BOYD: By choice.

WILLIAMS: Yeah, I have to pay the bills.

BARKE: Shhhh.

WILLIAMS: I know. It looks like then, it may be only practical to have this for the 27th.

BARKE: So you...

WILLIAMS: I'd like to-

BOYD: When you're saying the 27th, I'm saying it would be practical probably to have it on Tuesday, the 28th. In order to post, we would have to post the agenda tomorrow for Monday. We could post on Monday for Tuesday. Are you following me? Then, people would be-

WILLIAMS: You are not going to be here on the 23rd, is that correct?

BOYD: Correct.

WILLIAMS: Tomorrow is the last day.

BOYD: Tomorrow is the last day.

WILLIAMS: What is the availability of my board members on the 27th and 28th?

SPARKS: Twenty seventh works for me. Twenty eight.

WILLIAMS: It doesn't?

BARKE: I am open all next week.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

GOMEZ: I, unfortunately, don't have my calendar with me. I probably can do it, but I'm going off a memory here. What time are we looking at?

WILLIAMS: I'm open to that. I think, if you have particular time that's better for you, Beckie, I'm certainly fine for that.

GOMEZ: Like late. I mean, just about this.

BARKE: Like 5 o'clock.

GOMEZ: Three or four.

WILLIAMS: 4 o'clock?

ROLEN: I work for you. [Laughter]

WILLIAMS: [Laughter]

ROLEN: I will be available.

BARKE: All right, so we are saying 12/27, 4 o'clock, is that?

WILLIAMS: I will redo the motion just until we decide all this.

BARKE: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Nina, what you are saying is, the applications have to be in by tomorrow?

BOYD: If it's for Monday, yes.

WILLIAMS: Okay. Can we say like 4:00 PM?

BARKE: Yeah, because we'd have to post it by four.

WILLIAMS: Would there be staff available to get that request for an interview and candidacy?

BOYD: Well, then we'd have to notify everybody. I don't know how many applicants and so forth. If we say 4 o'clock, then at 4 o'clock is the cutoff. In terms of doing a draft agenda and contacting all the individuals and so forth.

ROLEN: Contacting which individuals?

GOMEZ: The applicants.

BOYD: Whoever submits an applicant so that they know to be here.

ROLEN: Okay. That's what I was just clarifying.

BOYD: Yeah. Are the same people who—would they have to resubmit or are they carried over? How does that work?

BARKE: No. No, I don't think—no. Anybody who's interviewed today, doesn't have to interview again.

SPARKS: Maybe we say 3 o'clock is the cutoff so that gives a couple of hour window for processing any applications.

WILLIAMS: I'm fine with that.

GOMEZ: That's less than 24 hours to give people an opportunity to apply.

BARKE: Can we do the-

GOMEZ: Just from logistics.

BARKE: Right. Can we do a 4 o'clock cutoff? You guys are here until five? That way it could get. Four.

SPARKS: Then, do a 3 o'clock cut off.

GOMEZ: Well, we've got folks on vacation too, so, next week.

BOYD: Mr. Rolen.

ROLEN: Yes ma'am.

BOYD: Because the legal notice said that it was going to be today, are we required to do another legal notice to extend it?

ROLEN: I believe you would.

BOYD: In order to do a legal notice, you need, then that also creates an issue. I'm not sure with the holiday when we can get to the Register to get that in. Well, we wouldn't even make the deadline.

ROLEN: We'd have to do that tomorrow. Could we do that conceivably tomorrow?

BOYD: It takes two days for them to do it. If we've cut it off for people to submit, the legal notice doesn't do any good.

WILLIAMS: Well, we already have a legal notice. We are just extending this, right?

ROLEN: We have a notice for an application.

WILLIAMS: Do we have to re-notice that we are extending?

BOYD: Yes. Just like we did last time.

WILLIAMS: We will listen to our council.

ROLEN: I hadn't taken that into account. There is a notice period that is—what is the notice period, 48 hours? We could re-notice the meeting for the 27th by-

BOYD: It's not the notice for the meeting. It's the notice-

ROLEN: The notice for the—you are right. The notice for the Register. Can we re-notice that, logistically, is it possible to re-notice that by tomorrow?

BOYD: They require 24 to 48 hours. The last time we missed the deadline, it was a three day. I don't know, because it's almost 5 o'clock now.

ROLEN: Mm-hmm.

BOYD: We would not be able to find out from their legal notice department until tomorrow morning whether or not we could get something in the—we did it Wednesday last time it was in the Friday.

ROLEN: That's for new applicants, correct? Or that's for any applicants?

BOYD: It just for the public legal notice that's required by code section to be in the paper.

ROLEN: Okay. We can make every effort to do that tomorrow for our meeting on the 27th. If they don't, that's the best we can do unless we're having the meeting the 28th and Trustee Sparks cannot attend. If they are unable to do their legal notice, that will create another set of issues. But, they have to do that. We have to notify them tonight that we are going to be trying that. On behalf of the Board, we apologize for any inconvenience to staff.

GOMEZ: Well, unfortunately, staff may have travel plans.

ROLEN: Right.

WILLIAMS: Yeah, but the staff can't ruin what the Board wants to do.

BOYD: We've heard that before.

GOMEZ: Well, we have to have the support to do our meetings.

WILLIAMS: Right. We are just asking the staff just to go a little bit out of the way. Why can't we post this tonight? Is there a reason why we can't post this tonight?

ROLEN: Somebody else is posting it. They are going to have to request the Register.

BOYD: We have to type up a legal notice. You've seen public legal notices. You've seen those. That has to be typed up, sent over. They have a cutoff in terms of their normal schedule. I don't know what that is because it changes all the time. And then now, it's holiday schedule. They also have a holiday schedule, which I don't know what it is.

ROLEN: Right. One would imagine.

BOYD: All I'm saying is even if we can make the deadline, we post it. Your posting has the details of what we are doing. If it's posted and it makes it in the Register on Friday and your cutoff was tomorrow, then I'm saying it serves no purpose. You'd have to have the cutoff—if it's in the paper on Friday, then your meeting would be sometime after Monday in order to receive the applications.

ROLEN: And we are prepared to do that, we just don't have an open boardroom to do it. Is that what I'm hearing that we don't have an open boardroom on the 29/30th?

BOYD: Just a second. I'm getting—because I have staff who are watching this.

GOMEZ: [Laughter].

BOYD: Holiday deadlines.

ROLEN: Which means they are dedicated and available.

BOYD: Yes. Submission deadline 3 PM, Wednesday, December 22. Publication would not be until January 6. So, um.

WILLIAMS: That doesn't make sense. That does not make sense at all. It didn't take that much time last time.

BOYD: All I'm telling you. I'm getting something that says that there is a holiday schedule. I would have to call to verify what I'm seeing, but this says holiday deadlines.

WILLIAMS: Where does this have to be published?

ROLEN: In the Orange County Register.

WILLIAMS: Can it be any other periodical besides the Register? Can it be the LA Times? Can it be the Epoch Times?

ROLEN: I don't know. It is usually the local paper. That's always been my experience. Do you have any input on that? Whether it can be the-

BOYD: It says the local newspaper.

ROLEN: Whether it can be the Daily Bugle.

WILLIAMS: Could it be the Costa Mesa Pilot?

BOYD: No, because District 4 is not in Costa Mesa—that has circulation that would encompass where you are trying to draw the applicants from. I am only aware of the Register, because that, you know, gets everyone. Whether there's a newspaper that encompasses all of Trustee Area 4, I don't know.

WILLIAMS: So, the LA Times meets that qualification as well as the Orange County Register. Is that correct?

BOYD: Mm-hmm.

WILLIAMS: Tim, does the Fullerton Observer go into your district?

AUDIENCE: No, they're not legally set up to do notices (inaudible).

WILLIAMS: Then, it's the Register or the LA times. If we send it out tonight to the Orange County Register, is it put into the legal notices section? Is that's how it's been, I would like to ask?

BOYD: Well, I'm guessing everything right now. Their hours are 8 to 4:30, so we've passed the deadline for me to call today. I would say that I need to check on the information that you are asking me to get accurate information for the Board. I just don't know.

ROLEN: But we can still post and agendize a December 27 meeting, correct?

BOYD: You can post and agendize a meeting. The question is whether or not you can do an appointment at that time.

ROLEN: Okay.

BOYD: Because.

WILLIAMS: Greg, help me out here. We've already made an announcement that we are going to be filling this position. We gave a date and a time. What is specifically required by the codes? Is it just the announcement?

ROLEN: My understanding of the elect-

WILLIAMS: Can we have some flexibility in this?

ROLEN: I wouldn't, I wouldn't advise flexibility with the December 31 deadline. If the Board chooses to make an appointment, they have to do it by December 31 or then it goes to a provisional election.

WILLIAMS: Right.

ROLEN: I don't know that there's any flexibility with that timeline. These issues with regard to the posting and the notice for new applicants, they are logistical issues that have just been hoisted upon us in the last minute or two. I don't have any reason to believe that these aren't very real logistical issues. My my advice to the Board is, whatever you need to do, make that appointment by December 31.

WILLIAMS: Then, it is going to go back to you, Nina. We really need you to help us out here, because I don't want to put this decision off. It is going to cost a half million dollars to have this special election. Can we get an effort to put it on the agenda on the 27th and to get it properly posted? Would you be able to go out of your way to do that?

BOYD: I've already said that I need to check on it. Once I check on it, I can give you the answers. It's up to the Board what direction—if you want to have your meeting on Monday then, I mean, certainly we will do our best to make it happen. Question is, again, whether or not we have media support. I don't know, because that's a different area. I need to check on those things. If you don't, what can we do in one day to make that happen? I can do a lot of things, but I am [laughter].

AUDIENCE: [Laughter].

WILLIAMS: Can we hire private media?

ROLEN: That would probably take longer, Ken.

WILLIAMS: Okay. What I'm hearing then is that we are at a stale mate here. (Inaudible).

BOYD: If Monday is the date that you're trying to do then, I mean, you're giving me one day to try to do a whole lot of stuff, so.

AUDIENCE: (Inaudible).

WILLIAMS: It's going to save the Department a half a million dollars so.

AUDIENCE: (Inaudible).

WILLIAMS: That's what I'm trying to do. Will you take control of the public?

BARKE: Let's just concentrate on what we've got going on here.

WILLIAMS: I can't concentrate with heckling.

BARKE: Would the public please not heckle so that we can try and get this wrapped up? Thank you.

WILLIAMS: Yeah. We are going to need the help of you Nina, to save a half million dollars from this going to the public.

BOYD: [Laughter].

WILLIAMS: There are issues that are outstanding. I think you heard the motion that I made, and I'm flexible on the dates. But we are going to need to have—if we do make it the 27th, we are going to need to have the media present. Will they be able to do that?

BOYD: Ken, I don't know how many different ways I can say it. I can give you answers tomorrow. I cannot give you answers tonight. You've just given me a whole lot of things that you want me to check on to make a meeting happen on Monday. I can do my very best to do all those things, but I don't know that—I can't sit here and tell you, yes, I can do that. I'm not going to do that, because I don't know. I mean, we are here today. We made everything happen, you know, in the short amount of time we had to have this meeting. We continue to support the Board and want you to be successful in what you're doing. I just, I can't control holiday schedules, and external offices, and what their schedules are.

ROLEN: Can you give us five minutes please? Members of the Board, five minutes. Members of public, thank you.

WILLIAMS: Take a break.

BARKE: Yeah.

GOMEZ: Is it just the Executive Committee?

ROLEN: Just the Executive Committee.

BARKE: Yeah.

[The Orange County Board of Education takes a recess and returns.]

WILLIAMS: Madam president, I would like to withdraw my motion to lay on the table board agenda number two as well as open the candidates submission. I would like to make the motion that we appoint Mr. Tim Shaw to the Board for District number 4.

BARKE: Do we have a second?

SPARKS: Second.

BARKE: Discussion? Discussion? No? No discussion? All right, then we will call vote. All those in favor?

SPARKS, WILLIAMS, BARKE: Aye.

BARKE: All those opposed?

GOMEZ: Opposed.

BARKE: Okay, so it is 3-1. Congratulations, Mr. Shaw.

WILLIAMS: Can you do the oath of office?

BARKE: I will do the oath of office.

WILLIAMS: Mr. Shaw, we are going to give you the oath of office, sir.

BARKE: Should I go down there?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, go down there and do it.

BARKE: I.

SHAW: I.

BARKE: Tim Shaw.

SHAW: Tim Shaw.

BARKE: Do solemnly swear.

SHAW: Do solemnly swear.

BARKE: That I will support and defend the Constitution.

SHAW: That I will support and defend the Constitution.

BARKE: Of the United States and the Constitution of the state of California.

SHAW: Of the United States and the Constitution of the state of California.

BARKE: Against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

SHAW: Against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

BARKE: That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States.

SHAW: That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States.

BARKE: And the Constitution of the state of California.

SHAW: And the Constitution of the state of California.

BARKE: That I take this obligation freely.

SHAW: That I take this obligation freely.

BARKE: Without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

SHAW: Without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

BARKE: And that I will well and faithfully.

SHAW: And that I will well and faithfully.

BARKE: Discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

SHAW: Discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

BARKE: (Inaudible).

SHAW: (Inaudible).

ROLEN: Do that president thing.

WILLIAMS: Gavel into closed session.

BARKE: [Strikes gavel] Thank you everyone for attending tonight and your participation. We truly appreciate it. We are now going into closed session.

[The Orange County Board of Education goes into closed session and returns.]

BARKE: (Inaudible) session to report out on our closed session. Greg Rolen will report out for us.

ROLEN: I would like to ask the crowd to be quiet [laughter]. On closed sessions' items number one and two, Trustee Gomez, absented herself. She had another engagement. In attendance were Trustee's Shaw, Sparks, Barke, and Williams. On closed session items number one and number two, the Board discussed matters of pending and anticipated litigation. No action was taken.

BARKE: Thank you, sir. I now adjourn the meeting.

WILLIAMS: Make a motion for adjournment.

BARKE: [Strikes the gavel]. Thank you everyone for being here.

BOYD: Happy holidays.