

WCCUSD Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 21st, 2016

630 p.m.

Lovonya de Jean Middle School

Multi-Purpose Room

3400 MacDonald Avenue

Richmond, CA 94805

PUBLIC COMMENT re:

Agenda Item F.5 "Accept the Final Phase II Forensic Accounting Investigation Report, Confirm that the Clay Investigation Subcommittee has fulfilled its responsibilities, and Recommendation for an Implementation Task Force".

Comment regarding that part of the Recommended Motion to "...approve staff's recommendation for the Implementation Task Force".

From: Gregg Visineau, 1428 Lawrence Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

FULL TEXT of COMMENT

Mr President and Honorable Board Members, thank you for the opportunity to speak to you tonite. My name is Gregg Visineau; I'm a 34-year resident of El Cerrito and the father of 2 sons who graduated from the WCCUSD's Castro Elementary, Portola Middle and El Cerrito High Schools. I have read all of the *Phase II Forensic Accounting Investigation Report*, from the Cover Sheet thru the Closing Paragraph. I have used the Exhibits and Acronyms after that, as necessary, to fill out my understanding of its full breadth and depth. My wife and I commented, in writing (in both a letter and an e-note transmittal) to the Clay Investigation Subcommittee and to the CBOC officers on Sept 10th, after the draft Report was first released to the public on Sept 9th (since we were unable to comment to the Subcommittee in person on Sept 15th).

I offer this short intro to indicate that I do not take the Investigation's Report lightly, just as I know you don't either. This is extremely serious business. And now that you're on the cusp of accepting the Final Report and discharging the extant Subcommittee, we come to the Implementation Task Force. This is where the "rubber will truly meet the road", not just tonite but for years to come as you work to implement the Report's Recommendations in a meaningful, substantive and sustainable way. This cannot be a one off, short-term effort: "Check the boxes, move on down the list, close the books and call it a success". Until these Recommendations are part of the culture – embedded in the DNA, if you will – of the District [the Board, the management, its staff and its employees], then no success is possible. And this will take time, very likely beyond the tenure of some current Board Members, managers, staff and employees. This is dangerous to full and sustainable implementation if there is no vehicle to assure continuity.

I therefore urge you to think long and hard regarding that part of the Recommended Motion to "...approve staff's recommendation for the Implementation Task Force". If you do indeed choose to approve and march down that path for Implementation, may I respectfully submit an additional part to that approach: That an independent oversight component be included as part of your regular, ongoing Financial and Performance Audit functions. This would be a simple and cost-effective increment to their regular functions; would be an unbiased, ongoing, independent third party evaluation of Implementation; and would provide the Board, the District, parents, students and citizens the fullest confidence that Implementation was proceeding as anticipated from your investment in the Investigation, its Final Report and the Task Force. Thank you.
