



**Summary of Public Comment - Today 50 people submitted a Public Comment**

*January 21, 2021 Board of Education Meeting*

| #  | Name            | Topic of Public Comment          | Public Comment   |
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| 1. | Laura Chassagne | Concern regarding a board member | Leandra Blades needs to resign. I am appalled at her lack of judgment in participating in a “girl’s trip” out to Washington DC during a pandemic, while under an essential-only travel limitation, and wearing no masks in pictures posted on social media. Our children follow rules. Our teachers follow rules. Our community follows rules. Our state currently (and at that time) has a stay at home order in place for the safety and welfare of ourselves and our community. Why should we ever listen or give credibility to someone who clearly has no use for rules and the law. Leandra made a poor judgment call to travel out of state (during mandatory state lockdown orders). In pictures, Leandra was not wearing a mask and was in close proximity to hundreds and thousands of other non-mask wearing protestors. I am so disappointed that she feels it is okay to expose herself to an infectious disease and bring it back to our community!! Rules for thee, not for me. She should NOT be making any judgment calls or deciding any rules regarding my son, our children, our school district or our community. Leandra Blades needs to be removed from the PYLUSD School Board. She needs to resign. |
| 2. | Alice Finch     | Concern regarding a board member | Leandra Blades is a known Qanon conspirator who was present as a domestic terrorist at the invasion of the US capitol building and is unfit to serve in a public office. Her inability to differentiate between fact and fiction and her participation in a domestic terrorism event should be enough evidence of her inability to be rational or respectful of truths. She should resign her position immediately or be removed by others from this role.   |
| 3. | Randall Wilson  | Concern regarding a board member | I would like to convey my deep concern for the board member Leandra Blades. Not only does this person believe, participate and distribute lies, misinformation and half truths, she actively participated and condoned an insurrection in our nations capital. How anyone that can be this brain washed and misguided can hold a board position is beyond understanding. At best she is a blind lemming influenced by provenly false ideology, at worst she is a dangerous insurrectionist that needs to be removed either way. She is unfit to be making decisions about any child’s curriculum let alone the very small percentage of equally misguided people that support her. She is free and welcome to believe whatever conspiracy theories and participate in what ever “protests” she wants as a citizen of the   |

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|    |                |                                  | <p>United States. What has to be accountable for is she is a member of the school board and in a very public office. She does not have the right to say she is off the clock and free to do as she pleases as she always represents our community and our schools. She signed up for the job. Not to mention the fact that she traveled across the country for “a girls trip” during a pandemic. This also should disqualify her to be able to fulfill her duties. She is also unfit as anyone who has the very poor judgement to run over a child and have questionable circumstances surrounding her “retirement” from her previous employment should be disqualify as a board member. Any one of these reasons presented should be grounds for removal, but all together this paints a person of questionable judgement that should not be making policy for our schools and our children. Thank you.</p>   |
| 4. | Julia Massey   | Concern regarding a board member | <p>Hi. I am a former student of PYLUSD. I have been very saddened to hear about the actions of Leandra Blades and her justification of them. Please consider a solution to this problem being her resignation. The non-biased and respectful education of students is at hand.</p>   |
| 5. | Rachel Mackary | Concern regarding a board member | <p>I would like to address unnecessary travel. Leandra Blades travelled across state lines and exposed herself and our community to thousands of maskless people at the DC rally. She’s also been pushing for schools to reopen in person. How can someone who’s so careless about this deadly virus make decisions regarding the safety of our children, their families, and our teachers?</p>  |
| 6. | Julie Suchard  | Concern regarding a board member | <p>In an interview on the “Andy Falco Show” on January 9th PYLUSD Board Member Leandra Blades stated “My dog is a black Labrador, so he is probably saying, my Mom is not racist.”</p> <p>The First Amendment grants Americans freedom of speech, however it does not protect Americans from the consequences of their free speech. Ms. Blades comment is tone-deaf and racially insensitive. The PYLUSD is composed of children with many diverse ethnicities and likening non-white children to a black dog is demeaning and hurtful to many of the students that the PYLUSD is supposed to be serving.</p> <p>The PYLUSD’s Non-Discrimination Statement states:<br/> “Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying in all district activities, programs, and employment based upon actual or perceived gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, ethnicity, color, religion, ancestry, nationality, national origin, ethnic group identification, sex, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, pregnancy, age, physical or mental disability or on the basis of a person’s association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.”</p> |

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|    |                  |                                  | Ms. Blades' comment violates the spirit of PYLUSD's Non-Discrimination Statement and it would be inappropriate for her to be allowed to remain on the PYLUSD School Board. Her continued presence on the Board of Education indicates that her views are endorsed by the PYLUSD Board of Education, staining the reputation of this once formerly well-regarded school district.  |
| 7. | Jessica Trinidad | Concern regarding a board member | Ms. Blades is unfit to serve the children of this, or any, school district. In early January, she took a recreational trip to Washington D.C. during a global pandemic. The recommendation and common decency state that travel at this time should only be when absolutely necessary. Whether Ms. Blades intended to take part in the January 6 insurrection, or if it was a "girls' trip" (as she said in her now deleted Facebook post), the trip was unnecessary. My children, along with the rest of the district, are forced into the worst education situation (hybrid and remote) due to this pandemic and the irresponsible behavior of people like Ms. Blades. I demand her immediate resignation.  |
| 8. | Gabrielle Fisher | Concern regarding a board member | I want it to be known I have deep concerns for the actions of board member Leandra Blades took on January 6, 2021 at the Stop the Steal rally in Washington D.C. This woman who was barely sworn into her role displayed a great amount of misjudgment by participating in that rally. Although she has a right to beliefs and values, she disregarded the weight of her position and decided to be at the Capitol. Furthermore, her constant activity with organizations that are counter to the inclusivity we all want for our school districts. As a parent of a student in this district, I do not trust her or her ability to judge what is right for our teachers or our students.   |
| 9. | Durriya Ahmed    | Concern regarding a board member | <p>Good evening, everyone. I would just like to preface with a thank you to students, educators, and parents from both sides of this issue for giving me the opportunity to speak. And most of all, thank you to the entirety of PYLUSD for giving me the tools to empower myself by exercising my voice and developing the foundations of my belief system by proving that change takes courage. My name is Durriya Ahmed, and I am a senior who attended Bryant Ranch Elementary, Travis Ranch Middle, and Yorba Linda High before I transferred to El Dorado. As a student of color, as a student who is part of the queer community, as a student from a low-income, non-nuclear family, and most importantly, as a student living in the third Trustee area, I find the actions and efforts of Board Trustee Leandra Blades absolutely appalling and embarrassing. Not only am I concerned with Leandra's 'capabilities,' I'm disgusted by her approach to sensitive topics that impact students.</p> <p>Looking beyond Blades' past, she has made no efforts to claim accountability for the groups she has hurt today. When Black and Brown students hear that their elected official compares animals to their being, it hurts. When someone of high authority equates "All</p> |

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|  |  |  | <p>Labs Matter" to the "Black Lives Matter" a movement, created to amplify marginalized voices and bring public attention to the inequity Black people face when it comes to police brutality in this country, it hurts. What hurts even more is that the district labels this "freedom of speech." Hate speech, from an elected official meant to represent the district, is where the line of "freedom of speech" should be drawn.</p> <p>Trustee Blades, you live a life of privilege, and the fact that you're able to deny the correlation your words have to a system that upholds white supremacy and racial injustice, is just proof that you are not able to set it aside when committing to the non-partisan position you hold. Your actions, words, and pattern of attitude against different ideologies and dehumanization of others are deeply concerning, piercing, and painful. With your refusal to take responsibility, you cultivate a culture that lacks accountability, accepts of violence, and upholds an entire structure of power that supports inequity.</p> <p>Looking past your inability to understand that the country's increasing COVID rates exceeds the worldwide average, you traveled to D.C. on a self-proclaimed 'girls' trip.'What I and so many other students are having difficulty understanding is how you were simultaneously not near the Capitol building, yet on the Andy Falco show, you stated that someone attempted to hand you a fire-extinguisher as they tried climbing up the building. Another inconsistency noted is how in the Long Beach Police Department's Handbook, being your previous employer, regarding counter-terrorism it states, "It is important for responding officers to understand the legal and policy requirements for reasonable suspicion, probable cause and the use of lethal force when attempting to investigate..". Someone experienced in law enforcement and interested in "law and order" would have avoided that situation instead of supporting it, and at most, derail it.</p> <p>Aside from your 'ambitious' story-line, you stated that we should keep politics out of the classroom and disregard the teachings of a " social justice curriculum" because you feel "there is a push for socialism, transgender studies, teaching of multi genders, the theory that white people are racist and have privilege, defunding of the police, and the disruption of the nuclear family." In your statement to the Mustang Wrangler, you also said you had gay friends. Did you know that in 1969, a black, transgender woman began a revolution that resulted in the liberation your friends are allowed to feel today. How are you going to explain to your friends that you don't care to learn about their history and culture, just because it makes you uncomfortable? Depriving Queer students of representation in the classroom goes against your statement of not bringing your political beliefs into the classroom. In addition, your statement regarding the nuclear-family is monstrous and classist. As a student from an immigrant, multi-generational household, that statement was a slap on the face. Whether you like it or not, the classroom is inherently political. That's why some people choose to stand for the pledge, and others don't. Again, depriving</p> |
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|     |               |                                  | <p>students of conversation that sparks meaningful discussion that we wouldn't get at home is counter-intuitive;we cannot progress as a society or generation without conversation.</p> <p>Lastly, what I would like to express to Miss Leandra, is gratitude. I want to thank her for showing students that you can be a figure of power, and still disparage marginalized communities. You can be friends with Black people, and disparage them. You can be friends with Queer people, and disparage them. You can be Hispanic, and still disparage your community. You can project to the world that you are open-minded and believe that no one should be attacked nor judged for their political views, without remorse and a sense of impunity. This proves that individuals who hold high office in education, who admit to indoctrinate activities and the dismissal of universal ideations that don't align with their own being put into the curriculum, have no merit being seated on a board that makes decisions, impacting students.</p>  |
| 10. | Jessica Alire | Concern regarding a board member | <p>Hello. As a previous lifelong student and former employee, I'd like to voice my concerns about Leandra Blades. Not only have her past words, actions, and social media posts offended and disgusted me; her recent presence at the Capitol on Jan 6 was abhorrent to me. This "girls trip" showed a complete lack of Covid care and conciseness, during a time when many families, teachers, and students may be mourning lost loved ones or reeling from this devastating pandemic. Additionally, to storm the Capitol with the intent of undermining our democracy should not be tolerated. I understand that her personal views are hers alone. I understand that she is entitled to her beliefs and opinions. And I understand that there may not be "proof" that she actively participated in any violence. However that does not excuse her actions. She was there. Why? As an elected official, she knows she has the community's eyes on her. Her role is to serve and care of us, for all students and teachers and all of PYLUSD. How can she care for all students when she clearly holds such divisive beliefs and eagerly participates in such events. As someone who may be making decisions for the community, I feel she owes at least a dialogue with an apology and explanation- at most, I'd Like to see her resign. Thank you for your time and I hope the best for all teachers, students, and staff of PYLUSD.</p> |
| 11. | Paul Lee      | Concern regarding a board member | <p>Leandra Blades should resign as District Trustee because she is bad for the reputation of the PYLUSD School District. Leandra publicly espouses the same false claims of election fraud and Qanon conspiracies that led to the violent attack on our nation's Capitol. She was at Washington DC taking part in the protests attended by white supremacists and Nazis. She shares their views.</p> <p>How can we trust the judgment of a trustee who is unable to distinguish fact from fiction? How can we trust her judgment when she went to a protest rally during the worst stages of</p>  |

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|     |           |                                  | <p>the ongoing pandemic? She continues to deflect and has not taken responsibility for her poor choices. She falsely blames Antifa for the violence when there is zero evidence of it. And there have been dozens of arrests clearly showing the agitators were not Antifa.</p> <p>I want her to admit publicly that the elections were not fraudulent. That Biden is the legitimately elected President of these United States. And that she was wrong to publicly claim otherwise. The 1st Amendment allows her to believe what she wants, it allows her to be wrong, and to be foolish without legal consequences. But it doesn't mean she is free from social consequences. And it doesn't mean that a foolish and wrong person is qualified to make decisions regarding the education of our children. Especially when decisions are now life or death. Does she believe that Covid is a real threat? Does she have the best interests of the safety and well being of the children or is she more concerned with perpetuating lies about it being a hoax?</p> <p>Her continued belief in false conspiracies is proof that she does not have requisite judgment or moral character to represent the interests of this District, lest the District become a laughing stock, and its reputation becomes irreparably damaged.</p> <p>We would not tolerate anyone on the board that publicly held objectionable views like racism, misogyny, religious bigotry or hate even when those views are protected by the 1st Amendment. Leandra Blades views are equally objectionable as these very same views led to a violent attack on our nation. This can not be ignored or tolerated.</p> |
| 12. | Wendy Lee | Concern regarding a board member | <p>Ms. Blades has shown a lack of character &amp; judgement to have any governance or power over our children's education. We need board members to believe in truth, facts &amp; science. Ms. Blades' association with conspiracy &amp; racist groups must not be part of PYLUSD!</p>  |
| 13. | J Sanchez | Concern regarding a board member | <p>Hello Cabinet and Board,</p> <p>We are all aware of the participation or visit to the Capitol by Board member Leandra Blades. Does she have a right? Yes</p> <p>Why did she attend?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She attended to show support for former President Trump.</li> <li>• *Support of our democracy in the thought that votes for Trump were false.</li> <li>• To "Protest"</li> <li>• For her own purposes....."girls trip"</li> </ul> <p>Why I have a problem with this?<br/>She represents a public school district. I actually voted for Leandra in November. After</p>   |

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|     |              |                                  | <p>watching what took place in the Capitol infuriated me. To know that Leandra was there to be a part of this infuriated me, especially knowing that she represents us as a whole in this district.</p> <p>Many companies have fired employees, including CEO's. Why? They do not want someone representing them as the face of what their company stands for. Have some of these participants shown regret for attending? Absolutely !!!</p> <p>Leandra made a poor choice attending this rally. She represents a district in which teachers are in classrooms working hard and risking their lives as they go to work everyday. Students wearing mask, teachers wearing mask working... learning!!!</p> <p>Leandra choose to take a "girl trip" to relax. IF she has children attending school (one in which my children attends) she has just put all those students, teachers and families at risk!!!<br/> COVID is real families have lost loved ones!!</p> <p>I also ask you watch her "live chat"<br/> As a Latino, this is disturbing her stating she is not racist due to having a black lab!!<br/> This is a racist statement which unfortunately she may never understand. Which IS out problem as she represents a district with a diverse population of families!!!</p> <p>Leandra on a FB comment picture to her friend (Christy Elofson Ali) after hugging peaceful protestors (10wks ago) Mocking them saying " they gave me hugs!! It was very strange, I thought they were stealing my wallet". Another offensive statement !!</p> <p>-PYLUSD DO THE RIGHT THING!!<br/> DO NOT LET LEANDRA BE THE FACE OUR DISTRICT REPRESENTS!!</p> <p>SHOW THIS COMMUNITY WE ARE BETTER THAN THIS!!!!</p> |
| 14. | Luis Jasso   | Concern regarding a board member | <p>Why would you travel during the novel Corona virus pandemic and not use a mask when traveling during a pandemic?Also why did you post pictures on social media with you not using a mask then going onto the Andy Falco show and contradicting yourself?</p>   |
| 15. | Kayla Coates | Concern regarding a board member | <p>An individual with such public racist/ignorant views posting on social media that EVERYONE can see on top of her advertising the fact that she wasn't following COVID protocols in a massive crowd of a ton of unmasked people should NOT to be on the board of education constantly influencing growing and malleable children who are too often taken advantage of. These viewpoints are more than just politics. Racism is pure hatred.</p>   |

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|     |                 |                                  | Even in joking context, it is completely inappropriate and intolerable ESPECIALLY when around children. Not to mention quite literally putting the children in danger with the blatant disregard of COVID safety protocols (specifically being at the Capitol on January 6th). This person and anyone like her should be removed from their positions and find a different line of work.   |
| 16. | Ethan Lee       | Concern regarding a board member | I'm all for the freedom of speech, she can believe whatever she wants to believe. But we as the people are allowed to recall her because of what she says. She needs to be held accountable for her actions. Would you like a nut job conspiracy theorist in charge of the school board? Do you honestly think she is fit to be in charge of the lives of children (might I add she hit one with her car) .Me neither. Do your job and get rid of her.   |
| 17. | Marina Lazenby  | Concern regarding a board member | Leandra should be fired for her participation in the Capitol riots on January 6th. Also because of her having hit a student with her car some time ago. She is not safe to have around PYLUSD students or their care   |
| 18. | Deborah Johnson | Concern regarding a board member | Leandra Blades needs to be removed from the PYLUSD Board. Her views, while she is entitled to her personal beliefs, have no place in an setting where we ask our students to be informed factual educated learners. Her unproven views have NO place in our students directive!  |
| 19. | Natalie Garcia  | Concern regarding a board member | The remarks Lenadra Blades made about her "'inability to be racist" while being interviewed on a podcast/radio show in January are absolutely abhorrent and disgustingly insensitive. By not recognizing this herself, it demonstrates she cannot and should not be given the responsibility of making decisions for the children and community in and around PYLUSD. Regardless of her political views, which also happen to be exclusive, racist, and self serving, her language and ignorance deems her incapable of holding the position of being a school board member. This community deserves better. Our children deserve better. If this school board chooses to keep Leandra blades on it for the rest of her term, it sends a clear message that they hold the responsibility of complicity when the moral answer here is to openly and quickly condemn racism in it's totality and by extension, keep people like Leanda Blades from holding any kind of office now or ever. |
| 20. | Adele Sotelo    | Concern regarding a board member | Good evening President Freeman and Board Members. I am a 41-year resident of PYLUSD and have raised 3 children who attended PYLUSD schools. I reside in Area 3, the area that currently is represented by new Board Member Leandra Blades. Tonight, I respectfully request that Leandra Blades resign her position on the PYLUSD Board. Ms. Blades' lack of leadership and character as demonstrated by her actions on January 6, 2021 and subsequently her comments appearing online are not what we expect from our elected representatives, particularly a representative to a non-partisan board whose role is to  |



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|  |  |  | <p>oversee our public schools.</p> <p>Some will comment about how Ms. Blades did not set a good example for our children by attending a rally whose stated purpose was to deny 81 million voters in the United States their rights under Article II, Section 1 of the United States Constitution by attempting to stop the legal count of the Electoral College votes. Others will comment about how Ms. Blades, appearing maskless at times, attended this event during a pandemic that is raging out of control. Still others may comment on how the behavior after November 3, 2020 of the presidential candidate she chose to follow (which she, of course, has every right to support) was the antithesis of the behavior we try to teach our children in this school district. And more importantly, that Ms. Blades, by her very attendance at the event, directly supported this behavior, even after all votes had been counted, all judicial election challenges were adjudicated, all U.S. states and their counties certified their election results (including Orange County where Ms. Blades' was elected to this very Board), and the Electoral College had met and voted.</p> <p>My comments, however, revolve around the oath of office Ms. Blades took on December 14, 2020 when she became a member of this Board and how her actions after the November 3, 2020 election and the written and oral comments that have appear online about the events of January 6, 2021 in the U.S. Capitol are in conflict with this oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California."</p> <p>Ms. Blades has defended her attendance at the January 6, 2021 riot and insurrection at the Capitol as her individual right under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. She is correct. Our U.S and California constitutions afford Ms. Blades and other citizens the right to peacefully gather to petition the government. What she did not have the right to do is trespass on the Capitol grounds. Also, in only focusing on the First Amendment, Ms. Blades completely ignored Article II, Section 1 by, along with fellow attendees, asking Congress to perform the unconstitutional act of not tallying the votes of the Electoral College. As an elected official, she should not be requesting that our duly elected representatives to Congress betray their oaths to "support and defend the Constitution."</p> <p>Ms. Blades is not just an ordinary citizen when she attends political events. Her speech and her actions as a non-partisan elected representative reflect on our entire community, particularly when they are done so publically. That is why I also want to draw your attention to the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution. While this amendment does not directly pertain to Ms. Blades' situation as she is not an elected official in a federal or state legislative or judicial office, it speaks to the seriousness that the framers of the Constitution gave to the subject of insurrection or rebellion against the U.S.</p> |
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|     |                |                                  | <p>government. The 14th Amendment bars federal and state elected officials from holding public office of any kind if found to engage in insurrection or rebellion against the U.S. government.</p> <p>The citizens of Area 3 do not know now nor may we ever know the full account of Ms. Blades' participation in the events on January 6th. At a minimum, the optics of Ms. Blades' attendance and her subsequent statements do not look good for a non-partisan elected representative of our school district. Ms. Blades took an oath to uphold all the Constitution, not just the parts she agrees with. For these, and many more reasons, Ms. Blades should resign her seat on the Board. Thank you.</p>  |
| 21. | Arthur Tonelli | Concern regarding a board member | <p>On January 6, 2021 thousands of individuals attended a Trump rally in Washington DC, entitled the "Save America March", that resulted in the trespassing of the U.S. Capitol and hundreds storming the building. The goal of this group was to subvert democracy and the will of the American people. It will go down as a dark stain in our history. Leandra Blades, one of our school board members, was one of the trespassers and participants.</p> <p>As background, my father, my three sisters, and I attended the PYLUSD, with hopefully another generation on the way. Two of my sisters and I were valedictorians, attended some of the top universities in the nation and the world, and we all have prosperous futures. As a student I led the associated student body as vice president and understood the impact of the school board. One can then understand my frustration that a community member participated in the insurrection and my outrage that it was a leader of this body.</p> <p>Leandra Blades claims that this was a "girls trip". The very act of taking a "girls trip" across the country in the midst of a pandemic displays how irresponsible Ms. Blades is. She attended the rally without a mask, endangering our community. She then trespassed onto the Capitol grounds, endangering our democracy. Leandra Blades admitted to being at the walls of the Capitol when an individual asked her to hold a fire extinguisher, which she refused to hold. This is not a denial, but an admittance that she trespassed and participated in the mob. Her participation added numbers to the mob, added to the masses that needed to be controlled, and added fuel to the fire.</p> <p>This was not the "girls trip" with a peaceful protest and food trucks that Ms. Blades attempts to portray. We saw what happened. America saw what happened. And the world saw what happened. This was participation in an insurrection to overthrow our democracy.</p> <p>With this trip and her racially insensitive comments since, Leandra Blades has proven that she cannot lead with dignity and responsibility as the PYLUSD expects her to. How can we expect our children to be held accountable for their actions, when there is no</p> |

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|     |             |                                  | <p>accountability for our leaders. How can we expect our students to learn about upholding our democracy, when our leaders participate against it. How can our young leaders of tomorrow be virtuous, when this is the example of leadership put forth.</p> <p>I am demanding the resignation of Leandra Blades. Her words and actions show that she is unable to serve and poorly represents our community.</p>  |
| 22. | L Tonkovich | Concern regarding a board member | <p>Leandra Blades marched with Neo-Nazis and domestic terrorists on January 6th, in support of the conspiracy theory that there was widespread election fraud. When the public expressed alarm that a public official such as herself attended what became a violent insurrection, she failed to take responsibility for her part in supporting the attack on the Capitol, and falsely claimed that Antifa was responsible for the violence in D.C. Ms. Blades may claim that it was simply a "girls trip", or may say that she is not racist because she owns a black Labrador Retriever, but her efforts to make light of the situation are in vain. She must take responsibility for her indefensible actions, and resign immediately.</p>   |
| 23. | Leah Davis  | Concern regarding a board member | <p>What is being done about Leandra's insensitive and disgusting comment regarding not being racist due to her having a black dog?</p>  |
| 24. | J C         | Concern regarding a board member | <p>I call on the board to immediately expel Blades for her criminal role in the insurrection and violent coup against the United States on January 6th. She violated her oath of office, and must be expelled as a treasonous traitor that she is.</p>  |
| 25. | B K         | Concern regarding a board member | <p>The most important attribute of a school board member is good judgment. By flying across the country in a pandemic to participate in an event that turned into a mob riot, I believe that Leandra Blades exhibited poor judgment. Donald Trump had said in a December Tweet that January 6th would be "wild", and it was.</p> <p>Another important attribute of a school board member is an understanding of educational institutions and the role they play in preparing students to be productive members of society. When she dropped by my home and we spoke at the front door, I was not impressed by her answers to my questions about the educational process.</p> <p>Instead, she seemed very concerned about teachers instilling gender confusion in elementary students and sharing abortion information with junior high students. But she could not cite any examples that this was occurring in PYLUSD.</p> <p>I have lived in Area 3 for 22 years, and my children have spent 25 school-years in PYLUSD schools.</p> |

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| 26. | Lia Thomas      | Concern regarding a board member | I request that Leandra Blades step down after her January 6th Capital riot attendance! Not a good influence for our children  |
| 27. | Jennifer Drudge | Concern regarding a board member | I think I speak for many people when i saw that Leandra Blades must be asked to resign. She is indeed entitled to her political ideals but when those ideals align with results of a domestic terrorist attack, she is then part of that same group. She is a distraction to the business of the children of the district which is a detriment. She needs to be held accountable too for her part is fighting the guidance of the CDC in protesting mask wearing- not only in public pictures and places but hosting forums and rallies. - that mindset is not good for the children. If she can go against national mask guidelines, she is capable of going against guidelines set by the Department of Education. She is a problem to the district. Her blasé attitude about it really seals the deal. She must be asked to resign, now.   |
| 28. | Denise Juarez   | Concern regarding a board member | I do not believe this person deserves to hold a position in the school district based on the actions that took place.   |
| 29. | Max Lee         | Concern regarding a board member | While this is a troubling time for our nation, I, a student at El Dorado HS, do not believe that having Leandra Blades as a board member fosters a culture that promotes the emotional health, safety, and well-being of all. You claim to teach us how our government works, but how can we be taught when Board member Leandra Blades doesn't understand fundamental aspects of our government.   |
| 30. | Shana Charles   | Concern regarding a board member | Trustee Blades has violated the ethical bylaws of the PYLUSD Board, and must immediately resign. As a parent in the PYLUSD, I've been following the issue of Trustee Blade's participation in the insurrection at the Capitol on January 6, 2021, and reading every statement Trustee Blades has released. The recent story in the Orange County Register is the latest new version of her involvement, bringing her up to FIVE different stories. In her quotes in the Register, she said she did not witness violence "at the rally," but in previous statements, she placed her own location right next to the Capitol walls, close enough to speak to a rioter who was scaling the building. We've all seen the video - at that range, she at the very least witnessed many acts of violence, and potentially participated in them. By her own account, Trustee Blades has at least participated in an insurrection at the Capitol, which breaks her oath made last December to uphold the Constitution as a public officeholder, and she has told multiple different stories about that participation since, providing a terrible role model for our children in the District. Whether she is criminally culpable, I don't know - leave that to the FBI to figure out. At the very least, she must resign from the PYLUSD Board immediately, having broken numerous District ethical bylaws, and proving herself unable to fulfill the basic duties of holding a public office in the United States. |

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| 31. | Sirena Johnson | Concern regarding a board member                   | Leandra Blades has proven herself unfit to serve in public office after she traveled across the country during a pandemic and attended a riot maskless. Leandra Blades has proven she can not act in a bipartisan way to educate our kids. She is racist, transphobic, and a danger to any kid that isn't straight and white. She hit and injured a child after driving recklessly in a school zone. She murdered a homeless man while a cop in Downey. Taken place in many Facebook groups that spew racist rhetoric, including a group that asked members islamophobic questions as a part of the joining process. We are a diverse and proud district and Leandra Blades is the antithesis of this. She must resign, with what's little left of her dignity, or be recalled a disgrace. |
| 32. | Allen Zakharin | Importance of Board Members remaining non-partisan | Parents throughout this district would like to remind all members of the board, especially the new members learning as they go, that these seats they're entrusted with are nonpartisan and members must work to keep their partisan poison away from policy making decisions. Members that live their lives engulfed in partisan politics shouldn't have ran for nonpartisan seats if they're unable to operate in the manner district stakeholders expect them to. When a specific political undercurrent that is hostile to facts, health orders, laws, and foundational truths we hold dear takes over part of our board, we all suffer. Our kids deserve better. Please keep this mind as you navigate your new roles and the standards that district parents will hold you to.       |
| 33. | Anna Guzman    | In favor of broadcasting board meetings            | As a parent and teacher (in neighboring district) I ask that there be transparency. Please live stream board meetings. AESD and other districts currently post "live" YouTube streaming of their board meetings and then posting for the community to watch at their convenience.  |
| 34. | Angela Eilers  | In favor of broadcasting board meetings            | With the number of covid cases remaining high, it is in the school district's best interest to broadcast these meetings love each month. If we are truly asked to help stop the spread and be responsible, the district should provide families with the ability to participate from the safety of their homes. All 3 new school board members ran on the idea a d promise of transparency. This should be something they vehemently support.  |
| 35. | Amanda Gaskin  | In favor of broadcasting board meetings            | Our three newest board members promised transparency if they were elected. A simple way to fulfill that promise would be to publicly broadcast school board meetings. School boards are supposed to be non-partisan. As part of their oath, members swear to uphold the constitution. It would be wonderful to hear our school board affirm this, rather than see members engage openly in highly partisan activities that do not fit with this oath.  |
| 36. | Shani Murray   | In favor of broadcasting board meetings            | Please broadcast meetings to ensure transparency. Concerns have been raised about the board's commitment to nonpartisanship, making transparency more important than ever.   |
| 37. | Patricia Hanzo | In favor of broadcasting                           | PUBLIC COMMENT for January 21st, 2021 PYLUSD Board Meeting:  |

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|  |  | <p>board meetings; Concern regarding a board member</p> | <p>General Function, item 2, Revise Board Policy 6020, Parent/Guardian and Family Engagement</p> <p>The goal for the school board should be to strengthen Board POLICY 6020 about the district's parent involvement program and measures of engagement. We strongly urge video and audio broadcasting of parent advisory council meetings, school site PTA meetings and PYLUSD Board of Education meetings throughout the school year.</p> <p>As a resident and parent within PYLUSD we need better ways to engage for the sake of our children's education and campus live. During this current Coronavirus Pandemic parents, staff, and students would be able to participate in educational decisions and district business safely without exposure to the coronavirus and afterwards.</p> <p>Parent engagement is a topic that includes our ask for board meetings to be broadcasted using video conferencing, not just calling in to listen. We should be able to watch the meeting.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>PYLUSD Board Bylaws were posted on the PYLUSD website (December 2020) to defend free speech the Trustee's right of personal expression. This was a result of parent pushback in November 2020 when Trustee Leandra Blades listing and advertised on the internet "PYLUSD New Board" on her Stop the Steal protest (Yorba Linda) event flyer.</p> <p>PYLUSD Board Bylaws do not allow for sedition and insurrection of the US Government and our Constitution. There are federal laws that supercede school board bylaws. PYLUSD staff and teachers are told and trained to avoid political discussions and keep a nonpartisan image. We strongly urge the newly elected Trustees, experienced Trustees, and PTA board officers to keep a nonpartisan conduct as well. Let's talk about INSURRECTION. Federal Law (18 U.S.C. Section 2383) makes it a crime to ENGAGE "in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the US or laws thereof."</p> <p>Federal law superseded the PYLUSD Board Bylaws. Trustee Leandra Blades' support of a Wild DC Protest, and the invasion of Congress on January 6th, is un-American. She is a founder and admin of the FB group called Yorba Linda Uncensored which posted and promoted Stop the Steal rallies in Yorba Linda during 2020, along with QAnon conspiracies, misinformation and efforts to defy the government. In January 2021 those rallies are now called "We will Not Stand Down" and are being advertised among fringe groups, and militias.</p> |
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|     |                 |  | Speech and organizing actions shouldn't lead to insurrection, violence, candidate intimidation, current parent smearing campaigns, and the death of a US Capitol police officer.  |
| 38. | Jacqui Genow    | In favor of broadcasting board meetings                      | <p>I am writing to ask the Board - again - to begin broadcasting the board meeting to the community.</p> <p>The goal for the school board should be to strengthen Board POLICY 6020 about the district's parent involvement program and measures of engagement. We strongly urge video broadcasting of parent advisory council meetings, school site PTA meetings and PYLUSD Board of Education meetings throughout the school year. Audio only is not acceptable. It is often difficult to know who is speaking and completely disconnects parents and listeners from what is actually happening during the meeting. Last month someone presented a slideshow that was not viewable to those listening in. Thereby being of little, to no, value.</p> <p>As a resident and parent within PYLUSD we need better ways to engage for the sake of our children's education and campus live. During this current Coronavirus Pandemic parents, staff, and students would be able to participate in educational decisions and district business safely without exposure to the coronavirus and afterwards.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> |
| 39. | Jaimee Ploghaus | Support for a board member                                   | It's a shame what's happening to Leandra ! We support her !!!   |
| 40. | Karen Farley    | Support for a board member; concern regarding a staff member | I am in full support of Leandra Blades who has done nothing wrong and is being viciously slandered by the same group of people who attacked her during the campaign, apparently with the help of her losing opponent, as we now know from the video posted where Susan openly offers dirt on Leandra and coaches a student on how to use it against her, and more. This behavior by a teacher is disgraceful, and unacceptable.   |
| 41. | Scott Andersen  | Support for a board member                                   | Scott Andersen supports Leandra Blades, also would like to know the district's policy on teachers communicating with students outside of school hours.  |
| 42. | Gina Beyrie     | Support for a board member                                   | Leandra Blades is a wonderful patriotic person and school representative with values and integrity. She stands for everything our public schools have been missing from demoralized policies which infect many of our children's sense of ethics. She was rightfully voted into her seat and to remove her for attending a sitting President's speech is unlawful. Just because there was agitation at our beautiful Capitol can not be assigned to   |

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|     |                |                                  | Leandra no more than someone driving down a street and being blamed for a non related home burglary. This case is a precedent for all and the Board should not cave to a vile demanding mob!   |
| 43. | Jason Williams | Support for a board member       | My family supports Leandra Blades! She has restored my family's faith in the public school system, and is the reason why our children will be returning to public school!  |
| 44. | Lisa Kent      | Support for a board member       | Just want to show my support for the duly elected Trustee, Leandra Blades. She was elected by our zone & has been under attack since campaigning and it continues on. She was elected for her values and stance on certain topics, suggesting a recall, will undermine the integrity of every election on. If there are other candidates, they can run next time and try to get elected. Thank You   |
| 45. | Janet Chang    | Concern regarding a staff member | <p>As I'm sure everyone knows already, there is a disturbing audio recording of Susan Metcalf, a former Travis Ranch principal and a current teacher at YLHS, speaking with a minor as she explains in detail how she wants to ruin our recently elected school board member, Leandra Blades. Why is she speaking to a minor about her political and personal revenge against our school member? I would never want any PYL teacher to be scheming something against our school board member with my child who is a minor. I was also made aware that Susan Metcalf has called out some students of PYL by name on social media simply because of their conservative points of view and as a result, these students are not feeling safe in their own school district.</p> <p>Knowing what we now know about Susan Metcalf, I know that there are many parents who are feeling hesitant about sending their children to YLHS where she currently teaches. Teachers like Susan Metcalf should not be allowed to teach in PYLUSD. There is a reason why she was unanimously removed by our board members from her previous position as the principal of Travis Ranch. She does not align with the vision of the PYLUSD Advantage which states, "We are committed to being a dynamic and supportive learning community that prepares each and every student for success now and in the future."</p> <p>I worry about the students who were called out by Susan Metcalf. I know that their parents are worried about how Susan Metcalf may retaliate against their children. Please investigate these matters and take proper actions for all the teachers, admins, and staff of PYLUSD who place their political/personal gains over the well-being of the students and their families.</p> |
| 46. | Shari Palicke  | Concern regarding a staff member | Our children are no longer safe in this district. A PYLUSD High School teacher took a phone call with a minor from one of our local schools. On this call, this teacher manipulated the minor into starting a recall against a school board member. She openly   |



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|     |             |                                  | <p>attacked conservative families, stated that she also had been having secret phone calls with another minor in our district, told this student that she would email and text her more "dirt" on the school board member and asked multiple times that the minor keep the phone conversation a secret and the teacher anonymous. I literally have no words. I have spent most of my parenting warning my children about adults who ask them to "keep a secret". I have watched countless videos on Mandate Reporting and how to identify the "grooming" process. A teacher should NEVER have private conversations with minors. A teacher should NEVER act like a "friend" to a minor. I have discussed this horrible situation with my own children and explained to them what is appropriate and what is not appropriate. But how do we know about all of the other children in our district? How are you, the district, going to keep them safe from adults that are in a power/authority position over them? How are you going to assure the families of PYLUSD that this is not occurring throughout our district? Is it just Susan Metcalf or are there more teachers making these decisions? How will you assure families that this will never happen again and restore our faith in this district? Thank you.</p>  |
| 47. | Angie Cohen | Concern regarding a staff member | <p>You are seated where you are at to look after the interests of our children and the parents who have entrusted them upon you. Not to protect an employee paid by our tax dollars, who goes behind parent's backs, talk with our children and impel them to conspire against a duly elected member who has done nothing wrong in her capacity as a school board trustee. This person has covertly instigated, as the audio provided to you before proves, with our minor children to seemingly redeem her lost candidacy and under the guise that this board member's beliefs are "crazy" and dangerous to the community. We are all entitled under the constitution to our faith held beliefs, morals, ideals, and philosophies. Each one of you here adhere to your very own, I'm sure. However, I don't think that your ideals and belief system alone are deciding factors when you vote consensually in the interest of our children. That is why you hold democratic votes and the majority wins, right?</p> <p>Please remember the teacher's words in that audio, that this current school board does not represent the community, because the majority of has conservative viewpoints. Could you be the next target of the other opposing political parties? Think about it, personalize it. YOU could very well be next. What if one of the teachers were secretly contacting one of your children, or grandchildren, grooming them to think that your ideals and values are crazy viewpoints? Is that really a teacher's job?</p> <p>No. Their job is to focus on the fundamental education of reading, writing and math. Civics and government classes are held at the college level, when kids' pre-frontal lobes of the brain have been more or less fully developed to be able to start thinking abstract and critical thinking is now formed. How many times do I need to vomit this scientific fact</p> |

before this school board?! Right now, our children are taking our word as law. If you tell them  $2+2 = 3$ , they will take it as truth and not question it. That is why no teacher or staff has any place influencing our children. Religion and politics have no place in the public school forum, except identifying and defining them. And that is further why children are not allowed to vote until 18 years old. There is a reason for this. Allowing them to participate in political agendas only confuses them and their insecurity of their world grows and is dispersed into their homes when they are led to think their parents have "crazy views," which apparently don't align with that of a district employee.

You also need to take measures ensuring that students are not cyber bullying and harassing those who don't conform to their own so-called beliefs. WHAT IS IT GOING TO TAKE for you to act on this? For a school board member or a student who is being harassed online for their beliefs and values systems to take their lives? Is that what is finally take to hear our angry cries and concerns? God, I hope not for all our sakes.

Please don't just thank us for our time and expressing our fears and concerns. But rather, please carve out the time to take action so that this horrendous nightmare does not happen again in our beautiful prestigious district, and set the right example for other school districts to follow.

Susan Metcalf, currently a high school teacher, a demoted principal from Travis Ranch School, and a former school board candidate who has used her political campaign page up until yesterday (January 20, 2021) to "enlighten" and "share information" to our minor students on how to recall or make resign a board member who has only participated in one school board meeting thus far and has done absolutely NOTHING wrong within her capacity in said role, should face disciplinary action and further severe consequences thereof. Mrs. Metcalf's employment contract expires in March of this year. The horrendous incidents alone, covertly orchestrating with our minor children for personal gain or some level of personal vested interest, should raise eyebrows and cause concern with our school board district board members and superintendent. But if this does not suffice for you, please resort to the complaints parents are beginning to submit on her role as principal at Travis Ranch. I myself have two separate complaints that I will be filing in the very near future.

You are urged to reconsider Mrs. Metcalf's employment contract renewal. She has repeatedly stated that she firmly stands on what she has said and done. Absolutely appalling. What message will you be sending out to our community if you do not take appropriate measures to rectify this horrendous slander and defamation by a public servant, and who is in partnership with the two other former school board candidates, Janssen and Nicosia, to allegedly bring forth "transparency" by our district?

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|     |                |   | <p>School Board Member Carrie Buck, as a side note, it doesn't bode well that you are a member of Janssen's and Metcalf's FB page, Placentia Yorba Linda – Better Together. It demonstrates a biased position before many in here this community. Many are keeping a close watch on what is going on and your membership and relationship with these two former candidates has raised flags and questions are beginning to arise. Bias and ties have NO PLACE in our school district, just as a reminder.</p> <p>A follow up as to what disciplinary actions have taken place with Mrs. Metcalf will ensue in 30 days. We hope you have a public announcement to our community to demonstrate you have hearing us out and taking appropriate means. Thank you.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>This is the kind of insanity that conservatives who voted for Leandra have to put up with and is pacified under the guise of Free Speech. The IG page, pyl.against terrorism has posted this today:</p> <p>“ We expect Leandra to have a crowd of cronies supporting her. Be prepared to be heckled and harassed by those morons. Protect yourself in whatever way you feel is necessary. We will continue to remain anonymous.”</p> <p>The school board district needs to intervene and do something about this before something really bad happens and our children are targeted and harmed!</p> |
| 48. | Nicholas Brown | In favor of reopening schools full time | <p>My mom listened to the last meeting and said you didn't read my comment so I'm sending it again. She looked surprised when I told her that I found the agenda and made a comment online. She told me she was very proud of me. Please listen to me.</p> <p>I am a 7th grade student in PYLUSD. Distance learning and hybrid learning aren't working for me. It's a mess. My grades have dropped so much and I promise that I'm a good kid. This is so hard for me. I know some kids don't want to go back and I say to keep giving everyone a choice for school. Please include what works for me. I need to be back in school. Not hybrid school, definitely not on zoom I HATE zoom! I need regular all day school at the school again. I don't know how long I can continue this way. I told you last time that this is crushing me! Please listen to me.</p>   |
| 49. | Heather Brown  | In favor of reopening schools full time | <p>Losing roughly 850 students this year, and the funding associated with them, apparently hasn't caught your attention and prompted any change of course so I'm not sure I believe that students dying from suicide will make any difference, but I want to start my comment</p>   |

making sure you are aware that ANOTHER child in public schools in Orange County has died by suicide. This time it was a fourteen year old boy in Anaheim. On the news his parents talked about his hopelessness that things would ever get better. His parents say his death was indirectly caused by the virus. I respectfully disagree. His entirely preventable death was caused by his local school board refusing to fully reopen schools and those who are putting pressure on the board to not fully reopen schools.

It has been over ten months since the children of this district have experienced anything resembling a normal education. This is at least the fourth time I am asking these questions: What your plan is to resume full-time on-campus education? Do you have a plan at all? Do you ever plan to return to full-time on-campus education this school year? Once again, you owe it to the families of this district to let them know instead of continuing to string them along.

I also still want to know how many Ds and Fs were given in the first grading period this year as compared to previous years and how many students received their first ever D or F grade. We're almost to the point that I'll be asking about the second grading period! I'm specifically interested in the grades of children who started out with DL and switched to hybrid because those grades would really begin to tell the tale of whether or not this educational experiment you're running on our children is working or not. Please don't try to gaslight parents into believing that distance learning and hybrid have anywhere near comparable educational outcomes as full-time on-campus education has for most children.

Further, the standardized state testing will shine a bright light on what this school year has done to help or hurt the educational progress of these particular children. If all is well, then there is nothing to fear from the results. Once again, I predict that the achievement gap will be immense between these children and the children in OC districts around us who DID offer a full-time option at the very least for elementary children.

Again, I always believed in the excellence of PYLUSD and I always believed that those in charge held the best interest of students as their number one priority. I was a weekly campus volunteer every year for nearly seven years. We participated in nearly every fundraiser and family fun event. I bought all requested supplies at the beginning of the year and replenished throughout the year. The very fact that someone like me has been calling out the disastrous decisions being made for our children says a lot. The actions demonstrated by this district over the last ten months have completely eroded my trust and faith. I don't even know that I believe that anyone receiving this cares at all about the well being of the whole child enrolled in this district: socially, emotionally, academically, and mentally. I say this purely based on the actions I've seen from you over the last ten

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|     |                |  | <p>months.</p> <p>Public records tell what this district received from CARES and other state funding sources. Where was the money spent if not to reopen school campuses for full-time instruction? I see a lot of improvement projects at schools that are being severely underutilized so you'll have to forgive me for wondering just when the children of this district will be able to resume learning on these freshly beautified campuses. Is the hold up due to money or safety? In September, it was plenty safe enough and you pushed the date for even hybrid further out. You haven't been transparent about how you spent the nearly \$17.1 million dollars from CARES and state funding sources, but I would hope it was spent to make campuses safe enough to satisfy all concerned.</p> <p>PYLUSD offered educational choices for everyone except those who need or want to go back to school full time. When will someone, anyone, stand up for the children of this district who never had a choice. Plenty of parents and children are standing up. What will it take for one of you to join us to champion the educational rights of the children who are not thriving in PYLUSD?</p>   |
| 50. | Elizabeth Hunt | In favor of shifting to full remote learning; Concern regarding a board member | <p>Dear PYLUSD School board,</p> <p>First of all, our local hospitals are out of beds, deaths and COVID cases are rising, the virus mutation makes it up to 50% more likely to transmit infection, and yet you feel that it is okay to keep schools open, with cases climbing at an alarming rate? Please make it make sense.</p> <p>We don't operate in isolation. Each time students, teachers, and school staff are in the same room, touching the same doorknobs and breathing the same air, we risk creating MORE cases. By keeping in-person school open, we are further worsening the already dire situation for our health workers. Why are we doing this to ourselves? This is no longer about "socializing" students. This could put people in our community in GREAT danger.</p> <p>Furthermore, can someone please explain like we are five years old how in the world Leandra Blades can still be effective at her job? She has made her racist views abundantly clear. She has made her disdain for accurate history and scientific facts abundantly clear. She has made her apathy for the marginalized students in our community abundantly clear. How does one actually make decisions for students while disregarding their humanity? How does she protect students' right to an education when she so willingly supported the effort to undermine our very DEMOCRACY?</p> <p>What does Leandra THINK is going to happen if she were to ever visit schools? An applause? She has tainted our district with her retched stench. She and her insane</p> |

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|  |  |  | <p>conspiracy theories do not belong in this once highly respected educational organization.</p> <p>Our students and school staff needs to be protected from COVID and toxic people like Leandra. Please do your jobs and show some leadership.</p> |
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