

Name	Written Comment
	Item #2 - CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION DECLARING EMERGENCY CONDITIONS EXIST AT SCHOOLS AND OFFICES IN THE DISTRICT AND GRANTING LIMITED AUTHORIZATION NEEDED TO TAKE NECESSARY ACTIONS TO RESPOND EFFECTIVELY TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)
Anonymous	Where is the supplemental form that itemizes specifically what the Superintendent is asking for? Given what we have seen about the man recently, does it seem wise to give him a blank check? This will not stand, it's clearly an attempt to thwart oversight. There is NO reason to approve this. There is a provision for emergency funding in operations for an actual emergency. This is authority is not needed for any of that. Don't be deceived, again.
Sara gillette	My husband and I are both teachers at 2 different schools in the district. We want to go back to school with our students when there are proper safety precautions in place. Between the 2 of us, we will be interacting with 400 students during the week (250 for me and 150 for him). We worry most not about ourselves but about those we love. My son has asthma that he has been hospitalized for twice (he is 2 years old). My mom is 77 years old and watches our kids once a week. If we are placed back at work without proper safety conditions, these are the people at risk. It is not an option for us to take leave. Please consider that this should not be rushed just for the sake of getting our students in a desk at school.
Anonymous	Since the last board meeting there have been numerous petitions issued by the community against the rushed reopening of the schools as well as a public community out cry in the distrust in the judgement of our superintendent. Please take these factors into consideration and do not give away any of the board's decision making ability over to one individual.
x	None of this chaos would be necessary if the superintendent had done his job all summer long. Please hold the superintendent responsible for doing the job he is hired to do. Stop allowing his lies to fracture and rip apart this community. Start demanding facts. Do it for our kids!
Anonymous	I'm troubled by this request for emergency powers. It appears the purpose of this resolution is to empower Dr. Haley to purchase things needed for our schools, specifically PPE, sanitizer, and filtration. However, Tina Douglas has repeatedly publicly stated that the district has everything needed. Specifically, she insisted that teachers only had to ask and they'd be given PPE, and showed a graphic listing PPE and related supplies. She represented to the board (and the public) that these things were already purchased. But now it appears from multiple sources (this request for emergency powers, requests made from school sites for purchases funded by parent fundraising dollars, and comments from teachers regarding the lack of supplies available to them) that these purchases have not in fact been made. I'm concerned that we now have multiple incidences of a troubling lack of candor from Tina Douglas, and possible accounting irregularities as well. Under these circumstances, I would think Dr. Haley (and his entire office) needs more oversight, not less, on any purchases, especially those that we are reliant on to ensure a safe school environment.
Anonymous	Opening the school too quickly without a clearly communicated and executed safety plan in place will be a huge disservice to both the kids who attend in person and the kids who still opt for distance learning. There doesn't seem like there is a good plan in place for either and the teachers will be spread too thin. I have lost all faith in this district to do the right thing at this point - it seems like they are willing to take huge risks to the kids and the community just to placate a small vocal minority. Please think this through carefully and do the right thing, which will be waiting through the surge and the holidays and to come up with an effective reopening plan for next semester.
Anonymous	Please be transparent in what you are needing to purchase using this emergency resolution. What checks and balances are going to be in place to make sure that the funds are spent on health and safety items to reduce the risk and limit the spread of COVID-19 and that funds not misappropriated?
Anonymous	The very legitimacy of this superintendent has been called into question recently. One has to wonder given all of the questionable decisions and tactics in his past, why is he even here? Why three of the present board members voted to hire him is unbelievable. We have not seen leadership, we have seen chaos, confusion and financial calamity at every one of his previous districts. He has been absent in communication and does not listen nor care to collaborate with the community at large. Notes are promised, and not posted. Agendas are hastily and ambiguously put together. The board meetings are filled with false information, I am not alone in being furious about that unscientific survey used to mislead the board. We are more than SEVEN months into this shutdown. Comparing ourselves to other districts, why are we so far behind REAL plans? Why haven't the students been polled? Why do you make such generalities in a pandemic? This is an abject failure of leadership, and now he wants a meeting at 10 am to ask for MORE power and less oversight? Your "safe reentry plan" is not a plan. It's a feeble and reckless attempt to look like something is happening, appealing to a few before the election. We elected a board to oversee the operations, we didn't appoint a king. We can see the truth, it is in the Superintendent's past, a path of deception that should not be enabled at the expense of our children.
Anonymous	Members of the board and district -- again you are addressing a need to make a change based on a reactive approach to the complicated process of returning students to campus during a pandemic, taking energy and resources away from the important planning and work that needs to be done to move forward effectively for the benefit of all. We implore the board to direct the superintendent to take a more collaborative approach with site leadership and teachers to determine a better way to proceed that prioritizes both safety and quality of education for ALL students. There are better ways to address the challenges than a top-down approach that does not involve the most important group for successful implementation -- site staff -- and that is not guided by politics and vocal special interest parent groups over a focus on the needs of all students. You are confusing the community, overwhelming the teachers, handicapping the site leadership, and removing focus from students with highest need to those with the loudest voices. A realization that there is a need to "purchase items we need for health and safety on an expedited basis" when you've been discussing bringing teachers back this week and students shortly after is alarming. Clearly, there is a need to look more carefully into the details of the plans and make sure sites are truly prepared for optimal safety and high-quality instruction before you allow the superintendent to give instructions to schools that are not rooted in the current reality and situation. Please ask for plans from the site (not district) leadership and prioritize needs and set timelines based on what they tell you they can and want to do for students, then charge the district with meeting the needs to get the plans implemented. Changing the process of planning to a more reasonable and thoughtful one will help you avoid abrupt changes again and again such as the one you must consider now.
Anonymous	<p>I am fairly shocked to see that NOT on today's emergency board agenda is any mention of this Thursday's "teachers in classrooms" new mandate!</p> <p>Following the community reaction against the Oct. 14 reopening resolution, most urgently the part requiring teachers to physically return to work Oct. 29, I am dismayed to see that although a special meeting has been called for Oct. 28, there is no agenda item to address this topic specifically. The lack of communication and transparency gives little confidence that the board and district are prioritizing a time-sensitive issue that the SDUHSD community, through comments at the Expanded Reopening Committee on Oct. 22, letters to the board, and thousands of signatures and comments here (https://www.change.org/p/sduhsd-board-of-trustees-have-sduhsd-adopt-a-more-sensible-plan-for-reopening), have made clear is of primary concern.</p> <p>Please call a special board meeting this week with an agenda item to rescind or amend the reopening resolution passed Oct. 14, especially the part that requires all teachers to physically report to classrooms starting Oct. 29 (though there are also other aspects of concern). It is imperative to do so soon, before too many teachers make the decision (as many have already indicated they will do) to retire or take leave or otherwise not return. This would put the high quality education of our students in great jeopardy.</p> <p>It is deeply troubling to see a special meeting that includes an agenda item to grant emergency authorization to the Superintendent, but excludes an agenda item addressing the reopening resolution. Therefore, we ask again that you please immediately schedule an additional special meeting and put the reopening and physical return to work item on the agenda.</p>
Marianne Grosner	I urge the board to not approve the adoption of this resolution. Why is Superintendent Haley wanting to regain more authority now? He had emergency authority for several months until it was recently rescinded. Is he now taking his role seriously whereas before he wasn't and he wants a second chance? The executive summary states that "we need to bring back a limited version in order for us to be able to purchase items we need for health and safety on an expedited basis". Why wasn't this done earlier? Parents have been asking to have their kids return to in-person for many months now. This is disappointing. The resolution seems a bit vague in terms of what he is asking for limited authorization on. Again, he has had several months to "take necessary actions to respond effectively to the novel coronavirus". Haley will have to forgive the public but many are a bit suspicious about this resolution and its intentions. While we are on the subject of purchasing items for health and safety, how about canceling the Chromebook orders and use that funding instead for health and safety?

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Katrina Young	<p>I am writing to you in opposition to the proposed resolution. First and foremost, it is my understanding that there are inherent operation provisions granting emergency purchasing. If so, utilizing already established powers would be the more prudent action. Regardless, while the language in the resolution grants "limited authorization," it does not define or qualify such limits. In fact, further into the resolution, the language expands authority to the execution of contracts without advertising or inviting bids. Either way, I believe it is standard for such requests to include supplemental materials. Again, it is prudent, wise, and necessary for our community to have clear and transparent disclosures. During emergencies, efficient action needs to be taken, but the community should always have full understanding of the purpose and consequence of such actions, especially when they involve tax payer dollars and pose realistic impacts on the students and teachers inside our classrooms.</p> <p>Secondly, I am confused by the need to re-establish emergency conditions. Leading into the Special Board Meeting less than two weeks ago, district leadership was robustly discussing reopening plans, and recommended target dates were provided in a Superintendent Update. As a community, we would like to be informed of any new information that is counter indicative of the board's previous discussion. If new information has come to light, our community deserves to have full knowledge to take any necessary precautions. If there is no new information, we would respectfully ask for the purpose of declaring an emergency resolution.</p> <p>Finally, it is my understanding that the previous resolution to bring teachers back onto campus still exists. Knowing that our entire community wants to work collaboratively toward reopening our schools, I also respectfully ask that clear communication and reasonable measures are put forth (or rescinded as necessary) to not only protect the health, safety and wellbeing of our students and teachers, but also promote trust and confidence within our community.</p>
Suzanne von Thaden	<p>Dear School Board Members, Please address the two issues your stakeholders are struggling with around all the challenges facing our district in terms of COVID/Distance Learning - INCONSISTENT MESSAGING and LACK OF TRANSPARENCY around decision making, purchasing, and collection/existence of family/student data related to choice of DL or in person learning. Messaging is not consistent from one school site to another. Have sites communicate out similar information (give them the latitude to put their flair on it, but it should not be different or absent). Messaging from the district seems knee jerk or late. Set a schedule to give us information on a regular basis - even if it is "still working on X". Consider publishing a weekly dashboard. You will avoid a lot of rumors/problems by doing this. Your decision making process seems discombobulated and unclear. Publish out your start up committee notes and presentations. Give us the facts about how you are spending the state money for COVID - I want to see a table with item description and dollar amount. I don't want to hear that teachers and staff aren't getting PPE when they request it, when I recall that SDUHSD purchased abundant PPE during summer 2020. I want to see real #s for students/families who want to go back to campus and who wants to stay DL by site. Add a field on every student's record in AERIES and push out a survey to have families make that choice. And for the love of GOD please get someone to act as a proper PARLIMENTARIAN during your meetings.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am alarmed that there a special board meeting was called and the very pressing topic of reopening schools and HOW to do it is not on the agenda. It is deeply troubling to see a special meeting that includes an agenda item to grant emergency authorization to the Superintendent. Why is this necessary? What are the new conditions indicating an emergency? What has been brought to the attention of the district that prompts a request for a relatively broad authorization of independent power? We need transparency and true leadership now more than ever. A true emergency requires stricter, not looser, oversight. Also, please reschedule a meeting to address the how to safely reopen schools. Thank you.</p>
Jill Lax	<p>Lack of compassion, transparency, communication, accountability, and responsibility have reached crisis proportions in this district, adversely affecting our teachers, students, and community. And now it is perplexing to learn that a special meeting is being held to consider granting emergency powers to the very superintendent who has been the catalyst of much of the frustration, confusion, mistrust, and suspicion. We cannot and must not trust that this new resolution is in the best interests of our community. It is imperative that the district and its governing board be clear in their motives and decision-making, especially at this crucial time. Just when we need to know more about how and when we can reopen safely, just when we are concerned that procedures are not being followed, we are now being presented with an agenda item recommending that the board adopt yet another resolution presented with little to no attached supplemental information. This senseless proposal presents many potentially disastrous consequences. What are the new conditions indicating an emergency? What has been brought to the attention of the district that prompts this request for a relatively broad authorization of independent power? Why does the executive summary indicate that this authorization provides "a limited version in order for us to be able to purchase items we need for health and safety on an expedited basis," but the actual authorization includes other emergency authorizations? This is NOT a limited authorization, limited only to purchasing "items." It "authorizes ... the flexibility of the Superintendent, in consultation with the Board of Trustees, to respond to the emergency conditions at district sites and offices..." Individual school sites and stakeholders need more authority, not less. Please do NOT agree to transfer the power placed in you as elected representatives of the SDUHSD community to the superintendent. A true emergency requires stricter, not looser, oversight. District leadership that has already shown it cannot be trusted should NOT be given more power.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am appalled at how SDUHSD's handling the virus response and reopening "plan." [Beth excluded], the lack of experience in the classroom, lack of awareness of the day to day lives and demands on students, teachers, and families, and lack of any practical understanding of how the "plan" will actually work makes me honestly afraid for the lives and safety of our students, staff, and community. Dr. Haley has said "there is a pandemic in our community, but it's not necessarily COVID. It's cutting, it's depression, it's trafficking..." How is someone who seems to deny the very existence of this virus and the threat it poses to our community in any way fit to lead our response to it? And I am CERTAINLY not confident enough in Dr. Haley's competence, concern, empathy, understanding, or care for our community to grant him any kind of emergency powers. The knee-jerk decisions that have already thrown our schools into chaos and eroded the staff's trust in the board and superintendent will only worsen if he has unchallenged authority to act without planning or answering to anyone. The minutiae MATTERS. The details MATTER. It MATTERS whether or not we have a plan for what to do when infected students come to school with the virus. It MATTERS that students won't be tested and will merely self-report. It MATTERS that we have no clear answer for sick teachers who need to know what to do about subs, their students, attendance, teaching, sick days. It MATTERS that students will not be 6ft apart with virtually no protection from each other. It MATTERS that all we are doing is skirting non-compliance, NOT following sound scientific or medical advice in our reopening plans. It MATTERS to students, staff, and families in this community who fear they could be forced back at any time with little warning and less regard for their safety. We are done with reckless, half-baked, and rushed reopening plans. We would rather be safe, at home, and alive than guinea pigs in these ill-informed reopening shams. Teachers are excellent at problem-solving and planning; why don't you ask them?</p>
Jen Charat	<p>In the past several weeks, you've had parents, teachers, students, & residents of the district ask you for more transparency, for more detail, for clearer messaging, for respect of the public trust we've all placed in you. We've heard calls for releasing more specifics about your plans to return teachers & all students to campus. We've implored you to please publicly engage site administrators, infectious disease experts, aerosol science, & details and outcomes from other districts' phased reopenings in a public dialogue about next steps. So you can probably understand why your voters & district stakeholders are confused that just 12 days after the superintendent, district staff, & some board members were in agreement that schools were ready for teachers & students to return ASAP, we're now seeing yet another special board meeting convened on extremely short notice in the middle of the workday--when many working parents, all teachers, & all students cannot be available for comment--to discuss a "resolution declaring emergency conditions...at schools and offices in the district." What is going on? Without detailed, specific information about what precisely the emergency authorization extends to, this resolution should not be passed. We've been told schools are ready; you voted to demand that teachers return to classrooms on Thursday; but now the superintendent is requesting broad authorization to remove the conversation from the public view because....? There isn't even another scheduled date for the Expanded Reopening Committee, one of the only somewhat public avenues to discuss reopening amidst COVID-19. Unless the detailed needs are specified in writing, granting the superintendent authorization to take conversations about contracts & budgetary needs out of the public view is wrong. The public trust is barely hanging on right now. Please vote no. Please get back to regular order & conducting the district's business at regular meetings with regular, collaborative transparency when district stakeholders can participate. Please vote no on this resolution. Thank you.</p>

Name	Written Comment
Heather Dugdale	<p>As the public outcry grows louder for transparency and collaboration, we have another surprising development - a special meeting to grant "emergency powers" for no-bid contracts while ignoring the need to rescind or at least amend the resolution to end remote working for professional teachers on October 29.</p> <p>Is the "emergency" because contrary to what this Board has been told previously, the PPE, HVAC systems and other safety items are wholly inadequate to bring teachers, much less students, back to campus in larger numbers? Why wasn't that an emergency two weeks ago when the teachers were mandated to return?</p> <p>What is most troubling, is that although Superintendent Haley has stated this is for things like HEPA Filters, there is nothing in this document that limits his power other than the vague statement of "in consultation with the Board".</p> <p>Two weeks ago the Board mandated an end to remote working on October 29th. In that meeting there was also a "directive" to come back to the Board with a detailed plan for in-person instruction for all students, and a specific instruction not to put into the community, dates for student return. Within a half hour of the end of that meeting, November 7 and December 16th were put into the community for ALL students to return and those dates were verified the next day by an e-mail from the Superintendent.</p> <p>Now we've been told that not only are those dates NOT when our students will be returning, that Board resolution seems to have been overruled as the teachers have been told they have to assess their classrooms, but do not have to return from remote working yet.</p> <p>Are these "emergency powers" to put in place the safety measures that we were assured already existed, but are now an emergency because they didn't exist? Is it an attempt to avoid taxpayer oversight for large projects?</p> <p>Based on the troubling actions of late, and confusing, out of the blue nature of this agenda item, I would be suspect of providing any "emergency powers", especially when in writing they are fairly vague in scope and not limited in time.</p>
Cindi Schildhouse	<p>I am very confused! I was told that safety is the first priority and our sites are prepared with PPEs necessary to open the schools. If we are ready for students to return then why the "emergency"? If there is an emergency then why are we still moving forward with planning to have students return? Is this evidence that there is a lack of communication? Is this evidence there is no plan in place? Why is this resolution necessary?</p>
Anonymous	<p>As a student attending a school at SDUHSD I'm incredibly disappointed with the Oct. 14 reopening resolution, especially the part requiring teachers to physically return to work Oct. 29. A special meeting has been called for Oct. 28 yet there is no agenda item to address this topic specifically. The lack of communication and transparency gives little confidence that the board and district are prioritizing a time-sensitive issue that the SDUHSD community, through comments at the Expanded Reopening Committee on Oct. 22, letters to the board, and thousands of signatures and comments here (https://www.change.org/p/sduhsd-board-of-trustees-have-sduhsd-adopt-a-more-sensible-plan-for-reopening), have made clear is of primary concern.</p> <p>Please call a special board meeting this week with an agenda item to rescind or amend the reopening resolution passed Oct. 14, especially the part that requires all teachers to physically report to classrooms starting Oct. 29 (though there are also other aspects of concern). It is imperative to do so soon, before too many teachers make the decision (as many have already indicated they will do) to retire or take leave or otherwise not return. This would put the high quality education of our students in great jeopardy.</p> <p>It is deeply troubling to see a special meeting that includes an agenda item to grant emergency authorization to the Superintendent, but excludes an agenda item addressing the reopening resolution. Therefore, we ask again that you please immediately schedule an additional special meeting and put the reopening and physical return to work item on the agenda.</p>
Andrew Bridges	<p>Following the community reaction against the Oct. 14 reopening resolution, most urgently the part requiring teachers to physically return to work Oct. 29, I am dismayed to see that although a special meeting has been called for Oct. 28, there is no agenda item to address this topic specifically. The lack of communication and transparency gives little confidence that the board and district are prioritizing a time-sensitive issue that the SDUHSD community, through comments at the Expanded Reopening Committee on Oct. 22, letters to the board, and thousands of signatures and comments here (https://www.change.org/.../sduhsd-board-of-trustees-have-...), have made clear is of primary concern.</p> <p>Please call a special board meeting this week with an agenda item to rescind or amend the reopening resolution passed Oct. 14, especially the part that requires all teachers to physically report to classrooms starting Oct. 29 (though there are also other aspects of concern). It is imperative to do so soon, before too many teachers make the decision (as many have already indicated they will do) to retire or take leave or otherwise not return. This would put the high quality education of our students in great jeopardy.</p> <p>It is deeply troubling to see a special meeting that includes an agenda item to grant emergency authorization to the Superintendent, but excludes an agenda item addressing the reopening resolution. Therefore, we ask again that you please immediately schedule an additional special meeting and put the reopening and physical return to work item on the agenda.</p>
Anonymous	<p>If schools are truly ready to reopen as Dr. Haley has said multiple times then why do we need an 'Emergency Conditions' declaration to get schools ready. If we do need an 'Emergency Conditions' declaration then obviously schools are NOT ready to reopen and the push to bring students back is misguided should be delayed</p>
Cynthia Edgerly	<p>I've become increasingly concerned about the level of transparency and clear, direct communication from the District. I realize these are complicated and unpredictable times, and I appreciate the extra time district staff and Board members have dedicated to navigating them. I do, however, wish that our SDUHSD leaders would make more of an effort to build trust and unity in our community. Instead, it seems they are working against teachers, by ordering them to report to classrooms on 10/29, saying they have all of the PPE and other safety gear they need, when, in truth, they don't. The calling and purpose of this meeting reveals what many of us have known all along, that the district is not prepared to bring teachers or students back to school. I urge you all to move toward increased transparency and collaboration by voting no on this resolution. Please slow down, plan more deliberately, and communicate clearly with teachers, students, and families to help bring our community together, something we all need now more than ever.</p>
molly Schneider	<p>Clear communication, transparency and collaboration is key to everyone feeling comfortable that our ship is navigating well. When a new resolution is presented as "emergent," it causes questions about what is actually going on. In other times, this type of resolution may have been unnoticed. But, at this point, when matters of science, how to integrate creative teaching models into various site curriculum and how to effectively collaborate with our teachers are all paramount and truly demanding of time and critical thought, is this the type of urgent resolution and scrambling that we need?</p> <p>Please model leadership, collaboration, transparency, common sense and a level headed approach. Time, energy, effort and attention to steering the ship build more trust than fire drills.</p> <p>Thank you for your dedication and commitment to bettering things for our kids.</p>

Name	Written Comment
S (sara) Giovanna Carr	<p>Students should be allowed to have the option to return to school, but only with proper safety precautions in place & teachers ready to teach without disruption to quality education. It is unclear that the minimum suggested guidelines can actually be obtained if students come back. With 30+ kids in a class there is absolutely no way that the minimum suggest 6 feet of distancing can be achieved. Anything less is not acceptable.</p> <p>Middle & High schools don't have cohorts, the number of potential exposures in a day is unacceptable. Coupled with having no plan in place for testing, seems to increase the probability of exposure & positive cases. Testing is an essential part of having a successful plan. A plan relying on parents to test & report is going to fail. Parents send sick kids to school all the time. Look back to last winter and how fast the flu spread through campus.</p> <p>Continuity - looking at examples of schools that have attempted to open you can see that the continuity of education is put at risk with the need to quarantine when positive cases pop up. Ocean Air is just one of the campuses where they have a positive case & kids had to quarantine. The back and forth creates disruption & is not best practice. Then if you look at Vista, they have four confirmed cases and hundreds having to quarantine. I could go on to list many more examples.</p> <p>Is it reasonable to expect teachers to be teaching both in person and online? I have been following teachers who are attempting this in other districts. It creates chaos & increases burnout.</p> <p>I don't see actual steps that will be taken if you have students on campus. The plan feels like it is just thrown together and that gives me concern as to the practicality of implementation of said plan.</p> <p>I believe that the success of having special education students and those that are high risk is in part due to the limited numbers (6) in the class, the social distancing, cohort & limited amount of time they are there. Why put this at risk to bring back more students?</p>
Sandi Adam	<p>Thousands of community members have called for action on the safe reopening of schools -- specifically, for revisiting the October 14 resolution -- yet the only action that you have taken is to call a meeting regarding granting emergency powers to the superintendent. This lack of communication and transparency does nothing to inspire confidence within the community that you are listening, that you are concerned and that you are taking action to ensure a safe return to schools.</p> <p>Please call a special board meeting to rescind or amend the reopening resolution passed on October 14. Please reinstate our faith in our board leadership, and offer the opportunity for students, teachers, parents, community members, administrators and the district governance to work collaboratively on a plan. Other districts, with careful planning, have been able to gain the trust of their constituents and make progress toward safe reopening goals. We all want in-person learning to be a viable option; we can work together to achieve it.</p>
N. M.	<p>Do NOT give that man any additional power. I am a community member and taxpayer in this district and with the scandals surrounding the Superintendent's past districts and the warnings they're giving about how it took years to build them back we need more oversight right now and not less. Who knows what he did that caused them to take to Twitter warning us to not let him have access to construction funds and such, but slow down. Slow down giving him power. Slow down the opening (we're getting close to purple and entering a COVID danger zone and don't need this district messing everything up for the entire community). The school board is elected by the community to protect our interests. Our interest now is to investigate more before releasing any more taxpayer dollars or spreading COVID all around town.</p>
Adam Fischer	<p>Dear SDUHSD Board of Trustees and District Personnel,</p> <p>I am speaking with regard to the "Resolution Declaring Emergency Conditions Exist at Schools and Offices in the District and Granting Limited Authorization Needed to Take Necessary Actions to Respond Effectively to the Novel Coronavirus (Covid-19)" that is currently on the agenda. It is unclear how the public can be told in the Oct. 14 board meeting that conditions are ready for a broad return to school for all teachers and students, and now, two weeks later, we learn that there are emergency conditions and special authorization is needed.</p> <p>It is confusing and strange for the board to agree to a resolution to bring teachers back by Oct. 29, and then, while that resolution is still considered passed, declare an emergency with special authorization needed to purchase health and safety items, with such authorization only being requested the day before the teacher return date. Clearly, this indicates the district is not ready to bring teachers, let alone students, back into the classroom for quite some time.</p> <p>This makes it quite apparent that actions are being taken in a far too rushed manner, and therefore this resolution should be rejected and there should immediately be a special board meeting called to reconsider the Oct. 14 reopening resolution, especially regarding the mandate for all teachers to return Oct. 29. Please take the responsible action and ensure that steps are taken with careful thought and planning, listening to the community, rather than execute a hasty "emergency" plan.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Ronette Youmans	<p>Regarding Agenda item#2: Today, teachers, students and families in SDUHSD are confused how you can tell everyone one week that conditions are ready for a broad return to school campuses, and then, less than 2 weeks later, we learn that "emergency conditions exist at schools and offices in the district..."</p> <p>We need clarity: Rescind your request that teachers show up on campus by October 29, and students shortly thereafter, since you have recognized that we ARE facing AN EMERGENCY situation, with COVID+ cases at Roosevelt Middle School and a Vista high school, very shortly after reopening</p> <p>There should have been an agenda item TODAY about postponing the reopening that was announced 2 weeks ago. Do you all have any idea the level of stress the lack of clarity has added to teachers' already heavily burdened lives, as they are faced with childcare issues and the consequences of an early reopening on at-risk family members?</p> <p>Rather than acting more transparently and clearly, Agenda Item#2 represents movement away from transparency and collaboration. What has led you to make this agenda item? Please add an agenda item at the next Board meeting that will reassure the community of teachers, students and families that schools will not be reopening until at least Q3, as was previously approved.</p> <p>Although it is somewhat reassuring that the Superintendent is finally looking at what needs to be purchased BEFORE the schools are opened safely, please do NOT agree to transferring the power placed in you as elected representatives of the SDUHSD community to the unelected superintendent.</p>
Anonymous	<p>As a parent of two students in local high school and middle school, I want to make sure that the District is developing a viable, detailed, and thorough safe plan for the reopening. Please make sure the emergent materials that the District plan to purchase will indeed make our teachers and staff feel safe and protected. I have learned that 8 teachers and almost 300 students were quarantined within a week after Mission Vista High School is reopened. And the principal there struggles to find substitute teachers. I hope this kind of scenario does not happen in our district. It is better for students to be taught remotely by full credentialed teachers than by rotating substitutes. Prior to school reopening, please also make sure our teachers are trained to handle concurrent instruction so the majority of students who will be learning remotely each day will not have poor quality of instruction. Let us continue to make the safety of our students, teachers and staff as our first priority.</p>
Anonymous	<p>While we all can agree that we'd like students back on campus safely, I urge the board to please delay the reopening of in person school until there is a safe, logical and thought out plan that is communicated to families. Today is 10/27, teachers are supposed to report on campus in 2 days, in 1 day there is a board meeting to try adopt this resolution declaring emergency conditions. My head is spinning. This feels like a hasty attempt to try and reopen when obviously schools and staff are not prepared to do so. It makes no sense. Students are to return 1 day a week, then off for a week for Thanksgiving break then back for 1-2 days and off again for holiday break? Then back on campus for a few weeks before the 2nd Quarter ends? This makes zero sense to me. Please keep everyone safe and keep the consistent routine and schedule for teachers and students. Use the time you have these next few months to open the right way when the 2nd quarter ends. I feel that we can come together as a school community and make a plan that would be successful for students, teachers and staff. Could you perhaps instead open for social events, clubs? etc? It would be essentially a phased reopening that is smaller and more manageable for all. Thank you.</p>

Name	Written Comment
Anonymous	<p>Per a lawyer whom I consulted, "the notice of hearing fails to provide sufficient detail for the public to provide effective comments. The notice fails to identify the details of the alleged 'emergency' that necessitates a deviation from normal procedures or justifies the granting of special powers. The powers provided to the superintendent are unlimited and do not require APPROVAL of the board, only consultation. Failure to describe the alleged emergency renders it impossible to assess if no-bid contracting is appropriate."</p> <p>I don't understand what type of emergency situation SDUHSD is addressing. Are we talking about developing a plan to avoid the emergency situation currently plaguing Vista Unified School District (VUSD)? Are we talking about giving the superintendent unlimited power to develop a plan to have solid reopening safety measures? Both students and teachers need to be tested regularly to detect asymptomatic cases to avoid school outbreaks and a massive quarantine. Will the superintendent be able to consult with epidemiologists and public health experts to review the district safety plan?</p> <p>The Board and SDUHSD must be aware that reopening could contribute to a surge in local COVID-19 cases with students unknowingly becoming the major source of spread which would devastate our community. The VUSD thought that safety measures such as PPE, ventilators, and air purifiers would work well too.</p> <p>Given the experience of VUSD, do we need to involve our children and teachers in another experiment to understand how COVID-19 outbreaks occur when large masses of people are assembled in close quarters during a pandemic? One would think that we could learn from the experience of others and avoid taking unnecessary risks.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Thank you for your prudent leadership in these difficult times. Emergency powers (originally granted March 19) were taken away from the Superintendent at the request of the Board in September. On October 14, Board members and the administration INSISTED that SDUHSD had everything they needed, all PPE, all equipment, all technology, ready for reopening. Why is the Board and SDUHSD now deeming it necessary to reinstate these emergency powers (but now including Board consultation) at this time? Is SDUHSD ONLY going to utilize these powers to purchase more items to make school reopening safer? Will SDUHSD use these powers to purchase technology teachers need to teach successfully in distance and concurrent models (monitors, document sharers for teachers)? For more PPE for teachers and students? For room-appropriate air purifiers, MERV-13 filters, or the renovation of the HVAC units/systems in schools? Was there a CalOSHA site visit that recommended particular purchases? Could you please clarify the renewed need for these powers and the necessary emergency purchases publicly in the meeting before you vote today? Thank you very much.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Following the community reaction against the Oct. 14 reopening resolution, most urgently the part requiring teachers to physically return to work Oct. 29, I am dismayed to see that although a special meeting has been called for Oct. 28, there is no agenda item to address this topic specifically. The lack of communication and transparency gives little confidence that the board and district are prioritizing a time-sensitive issue that the SDUHSD community, through comments at the Expanded Reopening Committee on Oct. 22, letters to the board, and thousands of signatures and comments here (https://www.change.org/p/sduhsd-board-of-trustees-have-sduhsd-adopt-a-more-sensible-plan-for-reopening), have made clear is of primary concern.</p> <p>Please call a special board meeting this week with an agenda item to rescind or amend the reopening resolution passed Oct. 14, especially the part that requires all teachers to physically report to classrooms starting Oct. 29 (though there are also other aspects of concern). It is imperative to do so soon, before too many teachers make the decision (as many have already indicated they will do) to retire or take leave or otherwise not return. This would put the high quality education of our students in great jeopardy.</p> <p>It is deeply troubling to see a special meeting that includes an agenda item to grant emergency authorization to the Superintendent, but excludes an agenda item addressing the reopening resolution. Therefore, we ask again that you please immediately schedule an additional special meeting and put the reopening and physical return to work item on the agenda.</p> <p>I am extremely baffled and troubled by the lack of transparency and lack of proper attention and support for this issue. As a scientist, the pandemic must be taken seriously and clear plans must be put into place before implementing any plan. Teacher, students, and staff are directly affected by your decisions. It is not fair to make decisions in a vacuum.</p>
Bill	<p>Please focus on a safe return. Let's pay attention to the minutiae! That minutiae could be someone's life. Don't give The Superintendent any emergency powers. You may feel that it's minutiae but it's not. You have no safe return plan. Focus on that!</p>
Tara Curley	<p>Our community is looking for ways to safely and efficiently educate our students, while considering staff and site needs during a public health emergency. Everybody is looking to the superintendent and board to model leadership and work collaboratively with the site principals and teachers to effect best practices and propel us forward. Clear communication, transparency and collaboration is key to everyone feeling comfortable that our ship is navigating well. When another resolution is presented as "emergent," it causes fear and questions about what is actually going on. In other times, this type of resolution may have been unnoticed. But, at this point, when matters of science, how to integrate creative teaching models into various site curriculum and how to effectively collaborate with our teachers are all paramount and truly demanding of time and thought, is this the type of urgent resolution we need? What can't be purchased without board approval?</p>
Alexander Adam	<p>Please call a special board meeting to rescind or amend the reopening resolution passed on October 14. It is alarming that instead of addressing this issue head on, the board has instead convened a meeting to grant the superintendent special powers. Why does the superintendent need powers if, as he said in the previous board meeting, the district already has everything it needs to reopen?</p> <p>We all want this pandemic to end, with the fewest casualties possible -- and we can't do that without proper planning. Please be transparent to us about what's going on. Don't rush the reopening. Let's do this right.</p>
Julie Bronstein	<p>Our community is looking for ways to safely and efficiently educate our students at the current high quality levels, while considering staff and site needs during a public health emergency. We are all looking to the superintendent and board to model leadership and work collaboratively with the site principals and teachers to effect best practices and propel us forward. Clear communication, transparency and collaboration is key to everyone feeling comfortable that our ship is navigating well. When another resolution is presented as "emergent," it causes fear and questions about what is actually going on. In other times, this type of resolution may have been unnoticed. But, at this point, when matters of science, how to integrate creative teaching models into various site curriculum and how to effectively collaborate with our teachers are all paramount and truly demanding of time and thought, is this the type of urgent resolution we need?</p> <p>We were assured at the October 14th board meeting that the school district already had everything it needed to open safely. What is needed at this point that can't be purchased without board approval?</p>
Anonymous	<p>Please explain why there is suddenly an "emergency" condition that warrants allowing our superintendent to purchase things without competing bids or advertising? Just two weeks ago at the special board meeting, our Board was emphatically told that our schools already have everything needed to address Covid on campuses. This assessment was a factor in convincing the Board to call the teachers back on October 29th. If we do NOT truly have everything for all classrooms to be safe, the teachers should not be called back physically to work. If we are unprepared to the point that it is a state of emergency, we should not be bringing kids back. What's changed in 14 days? We need information. Our Board has a duty to be transparent and financially responsible.</p> <p>Please either (a) formally rescind the requirement for teachers to return if we are not prepared and are in a state of emergency; OR (b) if campuses already have all that's needed for teachers and kids to safely come on campus in Oct/Nov, there's no need for this authorization and you must vote "no" so that purchases are fiscally sound, including being competitively bid and advertised.</p>

Name	Written Comment
Jennifer DiMase	<p>Our children attend Diegueno Middle School and have had a strong and positive educational experience through distance learning thanks to their creative, dynamic, caring teachers. We are concerned about the potential disruption of this learning if we are to transition to 1 or 2 days per week in person. We hope the board and superintendent will consider that learning could become less engaging if students are at home without direct instruction, or that direct instruction time could decrease rather than increase.</p> <p>We would not feel comfortable sending our children into a program that would require them to be in an indoor setting with possibly 75-150 different students per week. I hope that the district or school will consider maintaining 6 feet distance between students in classrooms and/or small cohorts, as is recommended by the CDC. Smaller cohorts could be attained through careful scheduling of middle school students, electives remaining online, or accelerated classes in which students take 3 periods versus 6 at a time. We presume the reopening committees would have informed recommendations in this area.</p> <p>Lastly, and particularly with the reinstatement of the declaration of emergency conditions for Covid related funding, we feel strongly that the district should upgrade their ventilation/filtration to insure a safer indoor environment considering this is the setting in which most transmission has been shown to occur. Most nearby districts have upgraded substantially, some to medical grade and others to merv 13.</p> <p>Thank you for considering that our students should not be put into situations that have been proven to be highest risk for Covid transmission.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Dear SDUHSD Board of Trustees, Does this sound like EMERGENCY CONDITIONS EXIST AT SCHOOLS AND OFFICES IN THE DISTRICT to you? October 14, 2020. Earl Warren Middle School. Mo Muir: Back to the speakers . A lot of the speakers said that we don't have the equipment. That we are not prepared. Robert Haley: We will show you that we have the equipment. ... Mo Muir: I just have one last question so we are ready to have all kids back if we needed to? The schools are all equipped? Because that seems to be some sticking point we've had. Robert Haley: With regards to anything we have done, the PPE, all of that we have done. Again defining all students, yes in a sense still following the guidelines. Yes. Mo Muir: Perfect. Thank you.</p> <p>Respectfully, SDUHSD Parent</p>
Anonymous	<p>Our once wonderful school district is now case study in a failure of leadership. It is not the fault of anyone except the administration. Our kids are doing well, why can't you make decision and stick to it? Why do you need this order? This is not a country town. My parents fled communists in China, this is happened. Local people get too much power. Last week you said we are ready. What changed? Is it the positive cases around schools people are talking about? Board, why do you never ask question in meetings? Just the superintendent talking for hours every time. We should start over with new board and new ceo. Language: "authorizes the execution of contracts without advertising or inviting bids; and, notwithstanding section 20114, authorizes the flexibility of the Superintendent, in consultation with the Board of Trustees, to respond to the emergency conditions at district sites and offices." Consultation? This is not voting! This is not what America is about. Who agrees to this? One person, with questionable honor from past? Just google Haley. Shame on you. Do not allow this. We are watching closely. We are not simple people, we are Doctors, lawyers, engineers and business people. We know how to manage organizations. This is NOT how you manage OUR money. We cannot trust this man with this power, or with any power.</p>
Anonymous	<p>I am a parent. I am so confused. Here is my summary of recent district communications I have received. 9/23: 2nd quarter will be distance learning. 10/1: An expanded reopening committee will review options and conduct a survey. 10/12: 2-question non-binding survey with no information on reopening plans. 10/15: Middle schoolers are recommended to begin school November 9 (no link to plans provided; parents were instructed to check the district website if they want information). It's been 12 days and I haven't heard additional updates. I am pleading with the district. Please continue distance learning this quarter and focus on supporting students academically, socially, and emotionally during the distance learning phase. Thank you.</p>