



A Great Place to Learn!

ANAHEIM CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUPERINTENDENT
Linda Wagner, Ed.D.

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December 10, 2014

Dear Parents,

Providing the highest quality education possible for your students is our highest priority. We work hard every day to ensure that our students have the resources, facilities and quality teachers that they need to succeed. We are proud to be a partner with you in writing our children's future success stories.

As stewards of your tax dollars and the public trust, we do everything possible to ensure that we are providing accurate and transparent information to the community we serve.

Recently, it has been reported to us that there are people in our community who have been paid by an organization to gather parent signatures for a petition that could completely change the way some of our schools are run. We have been told that these people are promising free iPads and tutoring for students in exchange for a signature on their petition. What they may not be telling you is that signing the petition could change our schools in dramatic ways.

If they wish to do so, the law allows parents to sign petitions that cause one of several things to happen. The petition could cause your child's school to become a charter school; it could force the closure of Palm Lane Elementary; and it could result in a complete change in the faculty and staff of the school. To read more about this law, go to: www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/pe/.

If you are truly interested in changing your school, including perhaps new teachers and staff, we do not want to discourage you from signing the petition. We would ask, however, that you read what you are signing and be careful about allowing aggressive petition gatherers to pressure you into signing a document without all of the facts.

We have not and will not advocate on either side of this issue. We do know that this issue is of special importance to our dedicated employees. We have been informed that their organizing bodies have and will likely continue to communicate independently of us on this issue. We do not control the communications of the various unions in Anaheim City School District, nor do we coordinate with them.

The Anaheim City School District is proud of the well-rounded education we provide our students. Our programs integrating technology, engineering, robotics, mathematics and critical thinking are preparing our students for college and careers. Our growing programs in instrumental and vocal music, the arts and dance are fueling their creativity. Anaheim City School District teachers are prepared and focused on teaching new national standards designed to help students think deeply, apply their learnings successfully, and be well prepared prepare for a bright and promising future.

While we do not control the communications from either side on this issue, we remain committed to offering a clear and fact-based presentation of all of the information to our parents, so that you can make the best decision for their child.

We know that nothing is more important to you than your child's education. We want you to know that the entire Anaheim City School District family is always open and available to you, including myself and my senior leadership team. We are happy to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to call us anytime at (714) 517-7510.

We appreciate the ongoing support of our parents and community members.

Sincerely,

Linda Wagner, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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