

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

We the People for Educational Justice will hold a press conference on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 4pm at the San Diego Unified Board of Education located at 4100 Normal Street

San Diego Unified School District
Deprive Black and Brown GPA Students of an equitable education

We demand that the San Diego Unified School District protect Black and Brown students at Gompers Preparatory Academy by **PERMANENTLY ESTABLISHING ON-LOAN AGREEMENTS OF GPA'S DIRECTOR, LEADERS, AND VETERAN STAFF on-loan by the District**

SDUSD is trying to return District E GPA to a failing school and children will be disadvantaged in further studies and will suffer acute economic hardship.

Fifteen years ago, at the demand of the community, parents and teachers, SDUSD Gompers Secondary became a District E Public Charter School with a commitment to reverse the poor performance of Gompers Secondary and become a best academic practice school.

After years of disparity, and under the spotlight of the 14th amendment, Carlin and the No Child Left Behind Act, parents, teachers, and community leaders established Gompers as a public charter that is the brightest light of excellence and hope for the District E community it serves.

To honor this commitment and comply with the law, SDUSD provided financial and subject matter expertise to the school. These resources included creating an on-loan agreement with some of its employees. This agreement was intended to send highly qualified leaders and support staff to improve what was then Gompers Middle School.

The agreement was written into the school's charter and approved by SUDUSD's Board of Education in 2005. In 2005, Gompers was one of San Diego's worst performing schools, and the on-loan employees at GPA were assured their standing with the district while continuing the work of raising student achievement and increasing opportunities for GPA's students would continue.

This agreement was a written contract that would allow the on-loan staff to retain their standing and benefits with the district while heading and sustaining a reform effort under terms that were necessary to the success of GPA.

SDUSD is now trying to remove academic resources from Gompers Preparatory Academy. This year GPA's on-loan staff received notice that SDUSD would no longer honor their agreements.

Amidst other attacks on the school and barriers increasingly put in place by SDUSD, this comes as another blow to the foundation of GPA. It begs the question, "Why place barriers where we should instead be channeling support?"

SDUSD is forcing the hands of GPA leaders and veteran staff rather than partnering to support the ongoing work necessary to sustain GPA's shining success model in District E.

We, the people of District E, deserve better. Our children deserve better. Closing the achievement gap means creating economic opportunities for our children, and ultimately for our community.

Opportunities widen when our schools have the right leaders and the right staff to do the heavy lifting.

We the People for Educational Justice insist that SDUSD's Board of Education continue what was agreed upon with the on-loan employees of GPA. SDUSD's original promise was a promise to the community members of District E. We now await SDUSD's decision to continue that promise.

Contact Information

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