

## TUESDAY APRIL 16, 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING – SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS

**Incompetent Leadership:** Our community is united in prioritizing quality education for our children and is deeply concerned about the district's leadership, particularly the appointment of Dr. Garcia as Superintendent given her previous experience at San Marcos Unified School District. Despite past conduct offering lessons for improvement, Dr. Garcia, along with Patrick Sanchez and Dr. Jimenez, have shown a pattern of lack of transparency, questionable hiring and firing practices, and a lack of accountability. This has led to declining test scores and financial instability under their leadership. We urge the board to take immediate action to address these leadership issues, as the community cannot wait while the district's situation worsens. The future of the children and the community is at stake, making it imperative to have the right leadership for progress.

- More information on this topic: [Petition update · MHUSD Leadership – A Closer Look: A Troubling Pattern · Change.org · Change.org](#)

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**Dr Garcia's Flawed Vision for MHUSD:** Dr. Garcia, after strategically choosing MHUSD after SMUSD, implemented a top-down leadership change inspired by John Hattie's Visible Learning, which ranks educational factors by their impact on student learning. Despite criticism of the approach and a decline in test scores, enrollment, and financial stability, she persisted with her vision, forming a District Wide Instructional Leadership Team and investing in significant contracts to support it. This wasteful spending has led to the decline of MHUSD financial health. And instead of a top-down cut approach, Dr Garcia proposed cuts at the school level impacting our students most negatively.

- More information on this topic: <https://www.change.org/p/petition-against-proposed-budget-cuts-to-morgan-hill-school-board-of-trustees/u/32504862>
- [Petition update · Redflags with MHUSD contracts · Change.org · Change.org](#)

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**FACE Center:** During LCAP advisory team meeting over zoom on 3/26 where only a select group were invited and attended (total participants on Zoom were about 23-24 majority MHUSD staff) the focus of the discussion was on FACE center and its strategies to address one of the required 8 State priorities "Family Improvement". The district has discretion in how it addresses, evaluates, and interprets some of these priorities through LCAP (Local Control Accountability Plan). One could argue, however, that the FACE center is excessive when addressing only the 'Family Improvement' priority of the State. We would like to better understand the return on every dollar invested in FACE (percentage increase in math and English improvement, test scores, etc). So the community can provide feedback on whether or not this was a good investment of our funds. Can we get the percentage of families accessing FACE services and at what frequency? What are the participation

percentages on FACE surveys and events, especially the most recent Brain Health session with catered dinner and provided childcare? The benefit provided by the FACE Center to the quality of education over the last three years remains unclear. Explore the rationale behind the FACE Center's existence and evaluate its effectiveness. It is perplexing why general education funds should be allocated to adult school programs such as "brain health and dementia prevention" for TK-12 students. Given the financial challenges, dismantling the program warrants firm consideration.

- More information on this topic: [Petition update · Utter Lack of Transparency - Not Publicized March 22 Public Board Meeting & More · Change.org · Change.org](#)
- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cXA\\_sP\\_TtCc6wxrT7rMoh3tQwJHqZ-uV/view?usp=drivesdk](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cXA_sP_TtCc6wxrT7rMoh3tQwJHqZ-uV/view?usp=drivesdk)

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**Declining Test Score:** Post-Covid, we are witnessing a downward trend in test scores in MHUSD. Nearby districts, including Gilroy Unified, either remained stable or slightly improved. Bakersfield City Unified, which has a surplus of Covid relief funds, demonstrated solid improvement in both math and English. MHUSD received \$9,083,467 per year as Covid relief funds over the last three years. As a community, we urge transparency and request a complete itemized list of spending specifically for this fund and how it was used to specifically address students needs leading to test scores improvement. Proposed budget cuts at the school level have a ripple effect on the quality of education for our children. As a community, we demand a comprehensive impact assessment to basic quality of education of the proposed budget for 2024-2025.

- More information on this topic: [Petition update · Sharing a Neighboring Community Success Story & More · Change.org · Change.org](#)

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**Lack of incorporating parents/community input:** Over the past three years, numerous parents and community members in Morgan Hill have expressed valid concerns regarding our middle school students. Unfortunately, MHUSD has consistently disregarded these concerns and the proposed solutions. Specifically, the issue of middle schoolers having to commute to Martin Murphy Middle School in San Jose via bus raises significant safety concerns. This ongoing culture of alienation toward parents has had a detrimental impact, resulting in declining enrollments and subsequently reduced revenue for the district. It is imperative that these issues be addressed promptly to ensure the well-being of our students and foster a more collaborative environment between the district and the community.

- More information on this topic: [Petition update · Sharing a Neighboring Community Success Story & More · Change.org · Change.org](#)