

June 6, 2017

San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHSD)

Via e-mail:

[amy.herman@sduhsd.net](mailto:amy.herman@sduhsd.net)

[Beth.Hergesheimer@sduhsd.net](mailto:Beth.Hergesheimer@sduhsd.net)

[Joyce.Dalessandro@sduhsd.net](mailto:Joyce.Dalessandro@sduhsd.net)

[Maureen.Muir@sduhsd.net](mailto:Maureen.Muir@sduhsd.net)

[John.salazar@sduhsd.net](mailto:John.salazar@sduhsd.net)

[eric.dill@sduhsd.net](mailto:eric.dill@sduhsd.net)

**Re: Agents of the SDUHSD?**

Dear Elected School Board Members and Superintendent Dill,

It is unfortunate that SDUHSD can't speak for itself. The District allows a private entity (High School Foundation(s)) to act as the agent for the District and spew alternative facts and misinformation to a trusting community that wants to support its public-school students in the best ways possible.

Where to start, the SDUHSD continues to state that "we (the District) have no control over the foundation(s)." ... "there is a wall between the foundation(s) and the District". Yet, the foundation(s) continue to send communication to the trusting community from [xxxx@sduhsd.net](mailto:xxxx@sduhsd.net). This type of communication leads any reasonable person to believe that this is a SDUHSD approved communication.

**Being Mis-Lead by foundation(s)**

SDUHSD does not receive "less funding"; we receive the proportionate funding relative to the student populations we serve. We live in a State that works to serve all that live in the State. School funding is complex and where Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) is an important step to strengthen our state's schools, we are all in agreement that funding in California remains inadequate for all students.

This is why SDUHSD has put provisions in place to continue to hire the best of the best in our School Administration to insure our students and teachers are protected. The SDUHSD Administration should be the ones communicating the needs of the District not some private entity.

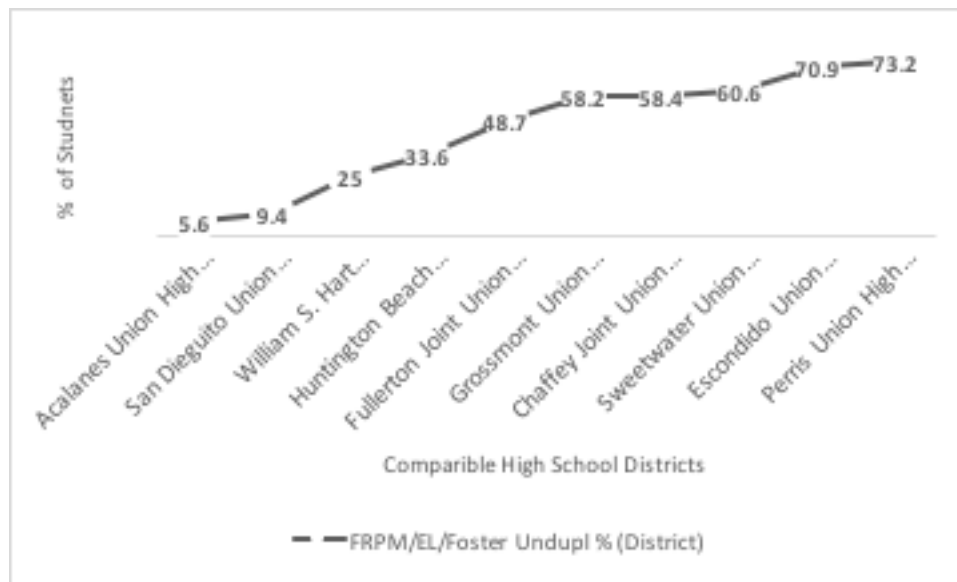
What the foundation(s) failed to mention is that LCFF is just that, a formula for funding. There are four main components to that formula (read all about it at <http://www.sduhsd.net/documents/Ed%20Services/LCAP/LCFF%20information.pdf>):

1. Base Grant
2. Adjustment to Base Grant

- a. Added adjustment for K-3 for smaller class sizes
- b. Added adjustment for 9-12 for CTE
3. Supplemental Grants
  - a. For qualifying student populations that are English Learners (EL); Low Income (LI) are those eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals (FRPM); and Foster Youth
4. Concentration Grants
  - a. For Districts that have over 55% of their student populations meeting (EL) and (LI).

Please encourage our community to get the facts from the District. Please promote to the Community to come learn about the new LCAP Plan in SDUHSD Board Agenda Packet 06-08-17 Item 19.

The foundation(s) have misled us with an inaccurate chart. Let's look at the comparison of like high school districts in CA based on student populations.



Sources: <http://www.ed-data.org/district/San-Diego/San-Diequito-Union-High>  
<http://www.ed-data.org/Comparisons?compType=districts>

The point being received from the foundation(s), is that a private entity(s), is allowed to act as agents of the District to solicit illegal pupil fees from susceptible parents who just want to give their student(s) every opportunity to find their passion, their purpose and follow their dreams.

### **Bullying Tactics Continue**

The foundation(s) asked: "How does the lowest funded high school district of its size in CA continually produce the top performing schools in the Country?" Let's answer their question:

1. We have the lowest percentage of underserved population of students of the High School Districts of our size.
2. We have good teachers, like many teachers across the state and country. One of the reasons that we have the highest performing schools (which no one ever seems to want to say out loud) is because the schools (including the feeder Districts) in the SDUHSD area are blessed with great “raw materials” meaning that our students are prepared for school, attend school, have good nutrition and have family support units that support their education.

The foundation(s) make the statement: “yet untold story” ... “without these dedicated volunteers and generous parents, there would be no school sports, arts, or extra-curricular activities in our district.”

Again, this is a private entity acting as an agent for the District. A District, that can't seem to answer the simple questions about what it truly costs to run programs at the schools without the private entity. Instead, it is a District that does not have a problem with a private entity telling students they can't ride the bus if they don't pay; they can't swim if they don't pay. Allow the hiring of outside coaches that will insure their own personal gain over the best interest of the students they are hired to serve.

### **Community Deserves Better**

An honest, well communicated inclusive public school, as SDUHSD promotes to be, would:

1. If the District is short funds to serve all students, the district would clearly articulate the shortfalls and put forth to the community the difficult choices of what is in jeopardy of being cut.
  - a. This gives the community the appropriate information to support the district and all students. It is guaranteed, if the community knew five boys did not play water polo because they felt they could not contribute...the community would find a way to get those kids in the pool.
  - b. Do we really need excessive waste in some areas when students are suffering and feel that they can't participate because they can't pay? Isn't this why the District should control the budgets and understand the baselines for providing programs so all students in our District can pursue their passions?
2. A good district would never allow a private entity to act as their agent and use “bullying tactics” by disseminating alternative facts and mis-information to the public in order to drive funds to their private entity(s) for their own personal gain. Private entity(s) that do not show a clear money trail to the District where they have promised to serve all students equitably.

What we are seeing in the SDUHSD is sloppy accounting, non-compliance with education codes and non-compliance of the District's own board policies. What we have to ask is:

**“Who is in charge?”**

**“Where is the money going?”**

Using the rough math from the foundation(s) letter they state they give the district approximately \$5.4 million a year. The district reports they receive at most \$3.5 million (*very, very hard to follow making assumptions*) doing the math, it appears \$1.9 million dollars is missing.

Again, all we are asking in return for our support of the SDUHSD is for a transparent, equity driven public school culture where we have a communication relationship with the Public-School District not a Private Foundation(s) that the District can't seem to control.

Sincerely,

The Shadow Parent Community  
c/o Wendy Gumb