

Superintendent Aguilar, UPE, and Board of Trustees:

May 18, 2022

I am writing this email after experiencing an unsuccessful suicide attempt and multiple stress-induced seizures due to the consistent racial and sexual harassment I experienced at work. By now, you know who I am and the details regarding the hate crime I have endured. By now, you know that SCTA, SEIU, and UPE members shared an overwhelming vote of no confidence in Supt. Aguilar. However, let me share with you what you may not know in hopes that other employees will never have to experience the trauma, mental anguish, and PTSD that has greatly affected me and my family's life:

- The hate crime committed against me could have and should have been prevented. Principal John McMeekin, Instructional Area Superintendent Chad Sweitzer, and Human Resources failed to fully investigate my countless, documented racial and sexual harassment concerns.
- September 2019- weeks on the job, a parent accused me of earning my job through affirmative action. This parent was furious that the English Honors class was impacted. My tire was subsequently slashed. Despite reporting concerns for my safety to Principal McMeekin, I was told that "some homeless person" may have come on campus and slashed my tire. From this experience, I learned that my parking spot was not a safe place for my vehicle, and there were no systems in place to protect employees from violent community members.
- A parent demanded that I draft a 504 plan for their student for the sole purpose of extra time on college board assessments. I denied the request and was told by the parent to get the black cock out of my ass (among other choice words). I cried in my office when the parent stormed into the principal's office seconds later, and the principal approved the request without medical documentation, sst process, or input from teachers. Principal McMeekin then requested that teachers revise assignments from the previous semester despite the fact that grades posted, teachers did not have input during the 504 process, and the student had no medical basis for the 504 plan.
- March 03, 2020- I cried silently in my office when an employee described to two other male employees the ways he wanted to "screw" me. I reported it to my principal immediately... days went by without a response... that is until the employee was emboldened and told me that my "ass" looked good in my work pants. I still had to work

with this man! I broke down in front of two female colleagues who confronted Principal McMeekin and demanded that he take this seriously.

- I reported to HR... I still had to work with this man! I demanded that HR investigate... I was told to get statements from witnesses because HR could not trust that Principal McMeekin would be responsive. Is it not harmful that someone who experienced sexual harassment has to investigate on their behalf? I had to continue living through the embarrassment and humiliation while asking employees to document what they witnessed.
- June 2020- after zero follow-ups from HR, a dozen administrators and HR Director Tiffany Smith Simmons requested a zoom meeting with Supt. Aguilar, Lisa Allen, and Chief McArn. African American principals, assistant principals, and HR Director Smith Simmons questioned the district's lackluster response to racism experienced by administrators and why there was no follow-up on my sexual harassment claim. Supt. Aguilar said how sorry he was that I had to endure this... yet, no changes were made. No investigation... no follow-up.
- November 2021- I was called all kinds of names under the sun by students who were upset with the dress code my principal created... a dress code approved by the IAS and Board. The N-word was broadcast on campus, I experienced multiple seizures at work. students came in droves to produce evidence of their peers racially harassing me and posting hateful words and images on the face of my -then- 4-year-old son and 8-year-old daughter. My principal told me that despite the fact students were calling me racist names IN CLASS during INSTRUCTION, it's free speech and we could not investigate.
- Christmas Eve 2021- while others were enjoying time spent with their families, I endured more racist attacks by students on one of many anonymous burn pages. I sent additional screenshots to Supt. Aguilar. Again, where's the follow-through?
- November 2021- February 2022-My email was spammed horribly with racist and sexist rhetoric. African American administrators were in disbelief with the district's lack of responsiveness so a collective email was sent to Superintendent Aguilar, Chief Baeta, and Tech services to demand basic steps, like filtering emails to prevent employees from receiving hate mail, to protect my physical and mental health.
- I have a litany of other documented incidents involving parents, students, and staff that are not exemplified in this statement but contribute to an overall decline in my physical, mental, and emotional health.

After three years of trying to have faith in the District to address the racial and sexual harassment I have experienced, I now know that the District is only interested in protecting its image and not the lives of its employees. I do not have the strength to continue enduring this

physically, mentally and emotionally unsafe working environment. This letter serves as notification of my intent to resign as Assistant Principal at West Campus High School, effective on June 17, 2022. After experiencing multiple stressed induced seizures on November 10, 2021, and an unsuccessful suicide attempt in December 2021, I now have the strength to leave this hostile working environment for good. For these reasons, I am resigning from my position as Assistant Principal effective immediately.

In Partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elyse Versher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elyse Versher, EdD
Vice Principal
Sacramento City Unified School District

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