

Monica Roque

From: DJUSD Board of Education
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT- Agenda item VI.d- Resolution No. 46-21 Condemning & Combating Racism, Xenophobia Vs. API students & staff

From: Lisa Salinas [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:43 AM
To: DJUSD Board of Education <boe@djUSD.net>
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT- Agenda item VI.d- Resolution No. 46-21 Condemning & Combating Racism, Xenophobia Vs. API students & staff

Thank you Honorable Davis Joint Unified School Board Trustees and Superintendent for your wise and brave leadership in addressing this important resolution to protect the API children, families and staff.

Unfortunately since COVID-19, I have been a six time victim of racist attacks all verbally and some physically in Yolo County. Random racist strangers attacked me at the grocery store, Costco and parking lots when I was buying provisions to feed my family. I am a grandmother and mother and look like a harmless panda bear.

All I can say is Thank God for grocery carts because they make great shields and fast paced spears to block racists' physical assaults and to delay the racists enough, so innocent grandma and mother of 3 Davis educated students could run away untouched by racists' hands or weapons.

As I have shared my tales of racist fueled woes to help protect API people in Yolo County and Sacramento region, more API victims of racist hate and violence have shared their stories including racist hate in Davis and Davis schools. It is the stories from the Davis API children that break my heart the most. The children are truly our future. It is through no fault of their own they have been harshly treated. School should be a safe place for them.

Tragically about 30 years ago, at Davis High School a Vietnamese American student was murdered by his fellow student because of racism. Please don't allow this to happen again.

Yesterday, I checked in with a current API Davis High School student. She says she is dealing with racist microaggressions. These add up. It's like someone slipping small doses of poison into your food every time you eat breakfast and lunch. As a child it negatively influences you profoundly.

I promised her that I was working with many other good people in Davis to make Davis better for her. I pointed her to the Davis Joint Unified School District addressing this resolution tonight so that she could be safe in her learning environment.

Woodland Joint Unified School District, West Sacramento Washington Unified School District, Woodland City Council, West Sacramento City Council and the Yolo County Board of Supervisors have all passed the resolution to condemn and combat this violent racism towards API people.

As schools open up, please ensure the safety and the non racial harassment of all our children, especially the API children and staff who have been so traumatized with the COVID-19 spike of xenophobia against API communities.

Thank you for your sage and brave leadership in seriously considering this important first step of the resolution. Please stand strong, together, wisely and courageously to protect the API children, families and staff in your care. Please be the API children and staff's shield as the racist world assails them outside school. Be the education sanctuary.

Thank you for your great public service and commitment to the safe education for all the students and standing up to racism against children. My hope is that no other person in Davis and Yolo County will be racially harassed and violently attacked like me and that my promise to the current Davis high school API student that many good people in Davis are working to create a safe learning environment for her will be validated.

Respectfully,
Lisa Yep Salinas
Davis homeowner