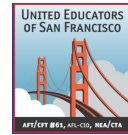


For Immediate Release - UESF is available for comments in English and Spanish

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UESF Statement On Board of Education Recall

Educators and parents oppose the recall calling it a distraction that takes away valuable resources from our students and classrooms

(San Francisco, CA) On Monday, October 18, 2021, the SF Department of Elections announced a special election to recall three Board of Education Commissioners: Faauga Moliga, Alison Collins and Gabriela López. If the recall election is successful, the three commissioners will be replaced by mayoral appointees. Another election for the Board of Education is already scheduled for November 2022, 9 months after the special election. The special recall election will cost the district approximately 8 million dollars. Educators and parents say this is a waste of time, energy and resources that will ultimately hurt our schools at a moment when we are facing possible budget cuts.

UESF President Cassondra Curiel said, “As educators who love our communities and care for our students, we are urging voters to reject this recall. The recall will waste precious resources when decision-makers need to be laser-focused on meeting the needs of our students. A successful recall ultimately results in mayoral control of the board of education, making it harder for families and the educators they entrust their children with every day to advocate for resources.

“SFUSD is facing as much as a \$112 million deficit next year, which could mean layoffs, increases in class sizes and cuts to essential services to our most vulnerable students. We need an independent board that will fight for the resources our students deserve, not a board beholden to City Hall. The distraction of a special recall election with potential mayoral appointments is NOT what our students and educators need most at a point of real crisis for our classrooms.

“The central issue here is not the individual commissioners themselves. This is about the voice of our parents and our communities. The recall undermines the voices of parents and voters about who should represent them on the Board of Education. It makes the mayor the sole decision-maker about who should sit on the board. Parents and voters want a school board that answers to them, not unelected appointees that answer to City Hall.”

SFUSD graduate and current SFUSD parent Grace Estrada said, “There are real needs at our schools. My son has two classes without a teacher. I, like other parents, want to see the City and the school district do everything they possibly can to put the resources necessary into our classrooms and schools. The recall takes away from that. Families, educators, and our communities don’t need recalls; we need resources.”

The United Educators of San Francisco represents more than 6,500 San Francisco Unified School District employees including teachers, counselors, security aides, psychologists, community relations specialists, instructional aides, nurses, speech pathologists, and therapists.

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