

Council Member X.

As a citizen of the Temecula Valley, I would like to express my concern over recent events that have taken place within the TVUSD. Specifically, the student walkout of Jan 13 at Temecula Valley High School (this was the second such walkout) and the subsequent Special Meeting of the School Board which took place on January 18 of this month.

The student walkout during class time concerns me in several ways. Students walking out of class and then off campus endangered student safety of both those participating and those who chose to remain in class.

Several questions come to mind: Who unlocked the gates and under what authority? Were gates locked after students left or were they left unlocked? If unlocked, were any staff positioned at the gate(s) to prevent unauthorized entry onto school grounds? What action was taken by Student Resource Officers? What was the school Principals actions while the walkout was occurring? Were any students properly “signed out” as would have occurred if they left for an approved absence? Adult activist speaker(s) were awaiting the students at the rally point, including board member Schwartz. Did anyone vet these speaker(s)?

Reportedly, board member Schwartz walked off campus *with* the students. Is this correct? If so, it appears that this walkout clearly was planned with adult coordination.

Parents send their children to be educated not to be indoctrinated by ideological activists.

At the Special School Board meeting, Council Member Barclay said in affect, “Our students are permitted to walk out of school, they are by law permitted to do that... administration correctly monitored and assisted that...”. What law is she talking about? Who are the administrators that assisted the walkout?

California Education Code Section 48200 does not allow for “protest” as a reason to be excused from class nor does TVUSD AR 5113(a). Furthermore, TVUSD Attendance Initiative states on its home page: “...**school attendance affects academic performance. We are taking a comprehensive approach that begins with engaging students and families to prevent absences.**”

Someone may want to point this out to board members Schwartz and Barclay. Families were never engaged prior to the event even though it is apparent certain staff members were aware of the planned walkout. A communication from the Golden Bear Family Update on Jan 13 spoke of a “student-led walkout” and made clear that “TVHS does not endorse any student-led protests”. Clearly this doesn’t seem to be the case.

Without appropriate disciplinary action being taken, this won’t be the last walkout of students. Students as well as the activist administrators enabling them will surely be emboldened to continue and I fear escalate this activity.

I urge you to take direct action and make it clear this activity is to be neither permitted nor condoned on any TVUSD school grounds. Failure to do so could expose the School District legal action if a student is injured or otherwise harmed.

Respectfully,

Concerned Citizen of Temecula Valley.