



Orange Unified Education Association

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Statement on OUSD's adopted policy regarding Parent Notification (BP 5020.2)

OUEA is interested in improving the working conditions of our members and the best instruction and learning of our students. The recently adopted OUSD Board Policy 5020.2 is problematic for several reasons.

1. This policy does nothing to improve instruction or learning in our classrooms, which is supposedly the goal of the OUSD School Board. There is no evidence that this policy is needed, nor evidence that it will improve learning.

2. This policy is fiscally irresponsible. It opens the district to litigation as evidenced by the California Attorney General's recent legal action against another school district with a similar policy.

3. This is a political distraction. The OUSD School Board should be focused on the unsafe classrooms in our schools that have failing or failed HVAC systems and needed security enhancements to protect our students and staff, not a policy that targets a small group of students.

4. This policy fails to empower parents. Parents have no right to opt out of this adopted policy as it is currently. If a parent is already aware of their child identifying a gender different from their gender assigned at birth, that parent has no means to opt out of this policy. This shortsightedness shows the board majority's failure to empower parents. Parents can opt out of mandated testing, they can opt out of comprehensive sexual health education (CHYA), and they can opt out of their child being photographed, but they can't opt out of this policy.

OUEA's mission is to implement a program that provides the best possible conditions of educational service, that maintains a contract on behalf of our members, and to further enhance the educational program of the District for its students and staff. This adopted policy fails to fall within those parameters of our adopted mission.

This policy is unnecessary, divisive, and evidence of management malfeasance. OUEA strongly urges the OUSD Board to focus attention, resources, and support to student learning, hiring and retaining excellent staff, and improved relationships among the community and within our own schools. This recent action is a huge disappointment and setback for our school district.

Greg Goodlander

President, Orange Unified Education Association