

# VUSD board is back to business as it used to be

The new Vista School Board has been bought and paid for by the teachers union. In a deeper sense I believe our community was taken out of its comfort zone and desired to return to the way things were before real challenge to union controlled education began two years ago.

The slanderous bleating of the teacher union power base, crying religious radicals, achieved success. Salivating media hot buttons were pushed that caused the community to want to return to the quiet education bondage of the past.

The teachers union will not tolerate anyone who disagrees with their politics or philosophy. Teacher union money and programmed tactics effectively divided this community in order to put blame on the former conservative majority to facilitate a successful, but unjustified, recall.

The fear and terror the union executive struck into the hearts and minds of real teachers and parents paid off for union dominance of education governance. There is peace, harmony and unity in the hen house if the fox has killed all the chickens.

I'm not sure the general public really understands that the teachers union is the largest union political action group in America today. Until the recent election they basically had control of the Federal and State government, as well as school boards. No longer. They may have slam-dunked the Vista electorate into reacting to their false propaganda, but at the State and Federal level they lost — big time.

The Vista's Teachers Union Rubber Stamp School Board has returned and will move the district back toward more social welfare distribution at schools, at the expense of academic education for the average child. We'll hear lip service for parental involvement and family values, but see the fruits of socially engineered students achieving less, but feeling better about it.

Those controversial policies that Diedre Holliday, Joyce Lee and I supported should be overturned. The contentious issues that the teachers union opposed, as well as their new board members, were:

1. A voluntary invocation prayer before board meetings. (No, we never tried to put prayer into the classroom—false accusation.)

2. A science policy that states, "scientific evidence that challenges any theory in science should be presented". (No, we never tried to put a creation science model into science classrooms or suggest that evolution be removed — false accusation.)

3. Parental observational access to all classrooms. (No, we never censored any books or teachers—false accusation.)

4. Rejected welfare grants

## GUEST COMMENTARY

that required matching education funds and buildings for programs that have nothing to do with education. (No, we never cut the free breakfast program — false accusation.)

5. Insertion of the words in the mission statement that say "...contributing citizens of our nation..." (No, we did not exclude immigrants from being welcome or educated — false accusation.)

6. The adoption of Sex Respect for seventh grade. This program did promote values that are labeled by the Teachers Union, Planned Parenthood and the ACLU as violating their freedom from religion. The worst violation is the promotion of the sanctity of marriage as the only worthwhile context in which seventh graders should consider for engaging in sex. I'm guilty of agreeing with the implementation of that moral value. (No, we never tried to put any brand of religion into any classroom — false accusation.)

7. Academic accountability. Though I doubt anyone will overtly oppose this it was my personal goal, as a trustee, that we actually be able to demonstrate with universal standards that individual students actually achieve real academic objectives, and dare I say it, hold teachers accountable for the success or failure. (No, we didn't chase good staff away from the district — false accusation.)

These are the issues that the voting public have effectively recalled. I accept the democratic decision. I took the job seriously as a trustee for education - not general welfare. I reject social engineering by the state. I also reject forcing religion upon anyone.

What the teachers union really orchestrated to have recalled is opposition to their unbridled control over child welfare and education. Education is very rapidly becoming a sub-unit of the welfare system. I believe school boards should be held accountable for measurable academic progress.

The majority of the voting public in our local community have given, again, carte blanche to the teachers union political philosophy for education. Abraham Lincoln said, "The philosophy of the schoolhouse in one generation will be the philosophy of the government in the next." The voting community in the Vista Unified School District has endorsed, at least for two years, a philosophy for the next generation that they rejected for their own current State and Federal levels of government.

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Vista

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