

Facebook Post about Sandee Everett By Jenny Fitzgerald

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/jenny-fitzgerald-for-cvUSD-school-board/our-school-community-under-attack-from-within/2292768194143094/>

Screenshots of the Facebook post were taken on August 11, 2019.

Our School Community Under Attack From Within



JENNY FITZGERALD FOR CVUSD SCHOOL BOARD · SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2019 · 8 MINUTES

“If you do not like public schools, boycott them.” – Mike Dunn

The event at Godspeak this morning, with former CVUSD School Board trustee Mike Dunn and current trustee Sandee Everett as main speakers, was an assault on the integrity of our public schools (and charter and private schools) – those in general and those right here in our district. This was perhaps best exemplified by Dunn’s allegation that our public schools target Christians by indoctrinating children with an anti-Christian agenda in the same way that “the state” used public schools in Germany to promote discrimination against Jews. This disgusting and blatantly dishonest statement is just one of many attacks launched against our district, its teachers, and school community.

Why should you be concerned?

- Because children are impressionable. Your child will spend 12,000 hours in the public schools.
- If your values conflict with the propaganda being taught your child, it will cause stress at home.
- Children want to be accepted and will make bad choices to be accepted by the dominate culture.
- The state is taking more and more control of your children away from you.
- In Germany, during the late 1930's, the STATE used the public schools to promote discrimination against the Jews. In China, the STATE again used the public schools to promote atheism. Today the target in America's public schools are Christians.



What's Our Agenda?

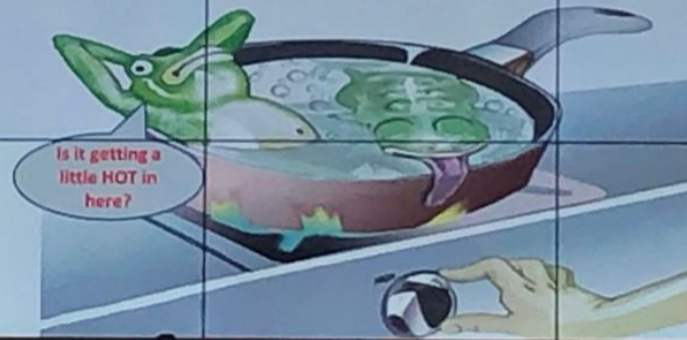
According to Dunn and Everett's presentation today, our public schools promote an anti-Christian agenda. However, the fact that our schools do not express approval or deference to a particular religion is not anti-Christian as Dunn and Everett claim. Our schools are secular environments as required by our US Constitution, and in the same way they do not promote Christianity, our schools similarly do not promote Buddhism, Judaism, Islam or atheist views. Ours is a school district filled with students from many different backgrounds and it strives to be welcoming and open to students of all races, religions, and orientations. That public school curriculum does not express agreement or deference to a particular set of religious beliefs and values does not make it antagonistic to that religion; rather, it is the textbook example of what happens when church and state are appropriately separated. If you want to teach your kids that it's not appropriate for Heather to have two mommies (as discussed in the book Heather Has Two Mommies, attacked by the speakers), it is your right to do so. But at school, Heather and Heather's two mommies are going to be welcome and feel safe.

Sunday School for the Far Left

- Far left activist groups want Public Schools to be their “Sunday School.”
- They want to force teachers to pass along their non-theistic religious dogma to the next generation.
- Some radical educators have even adopted religious terminology, such as “sacred classroom.”
- Forcing a new belief system onto students in the classroom is a violation of the establishment clause of the 1st amendment, since the government is establishing a non-scientific set of beliefs as the state’s official doctrine.

Like a frog in a pot of water.....

- The way the public schools are treating our children reminds me of a frog in a pot of water. The water is the secular humanist politically correct agenda. And the fire underneath the pot is being raised by the public schools until your child is cooked.



In Good Company

Not to be singled out, many others were included in the attacks - the ACORN, charter schools (specifically including MATES and Bridges), private schools (specifically including Carden, Living Oaks, Seventh Day Adventist, and Oaks Christian), public home schools, the California Teachers Association, and CVUSD teachers to name a few. According to Dunn and Everett, the expense of private schools are a problem and charters are an issue because they must follow CA education laws (such as providing sexual health education and HIV prevention education).

Not in Our Neighborhood

AB493 featured prominently in the presentations and was identified as a problem because, if passed, public and charter schools will be required to provide training to teachers and certificated employees of grades 7-12 for the support of LGBTQ+ students and strategies to support these students to improve the overall school climate. Please see the following link for the factually correct description of the bill, rather than the false and misleading information presented by Dunn:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB493

This opened perhaps the most troubling part of today's presentation, where it was made clear that the well-being of our LGBTQ+ students simply does not matter as much as others. With so much talk about protecting students from triggering events, dismissing evidence demonstrating verbal, physical, and online harassment of LGBTQ+ students – which has resulted in many contemplating suicide – struck me as the most heartbreaking form of hypocrisy. <https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article226211595.html>

This hypocrisy was at its highest form when Everett stated that we (CVUSD) don't need training because, although you may have heard otherwise from the ACORN, no evidence has been presented that gender non-conforming kids are "often" the targets of bullying in our area. No regard was given to the abundant research which "has shown that over half of LGBTQ pupils who are harassed/assaulted in school do not report these incidents to school staff..." (see same link above). Everett further stated that "if the number of incidents is small, then it can be resolved easily through discipline of the bully." No explanation was provided as to why her recommended approach is to wait for incidents of bullying and harassment to occur (assuming they are reported in the first place) before taking action through discipline, when the damage would have already been done. No explanation was provided as to why proactively addressing these concerns through training to avoid – or at least decrease – potential incidents of bullying and harassment and the harmful effects they have on LGBTQ+ students is not appropriate. Based on the overarching content of today's presentation, I suspect we all know why she is taking this position.

Acorn is Blatantly Biased on this Issue

- Editorial published on August 8, 2019
- Makes the following points:
 - Claims that gender non-conforming kids are OFTEN the targets of bullying. But there is has been no evidence presented that this is occurring here.
 - Applauds this "bold move" by the district. The Oak Park district is in fact implementing a heavy-handed solution that is looking for a problem.
 - Oak Park presented no evidence that widespread transgender bullying is occurring. If the number of incidents is small, then it can be resolved easily through discipline of the bully.
 - If this were a sincere anti-bullying program, then it would be more focused on race, ethnicity, country of origin and religion, which according to the data from the California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS), occurs 3 times as much as sexual orientation bullying. Transgender bullying is so rare that it is not even measured by the CHKS.

What the Event Wasn't

“Providing community leadership and advocacy on behalf of students, the district's educational program, and public education in order to build support within the local community and at the state and national levels.” (Board Bylaw 9000 regarding the role of Board Members).

Board members often speak out in favor/against certain policies/programs. But the fact that a current board member was a main speaker in an event that bashed our public schools – and had virtually nothing positive to say about them in spite of all the amazing things they offer and the many improvements made over the past year- is concerning to say the least. I thought perhaps Everett was going to announce that she was done with public schools, but Dunn endorsed Everett's re-election at the event.

I see non-public school options as necessary for students in our community and personally value the diversity of thought and educational opportunity they offer. I attended an event last year put on for families wanting to learn more about local alternate educational programs. It was amazing! Many different programs were represented, including some of the district's alternate education programs. I walked away with knowledge that will help us better serve the students in our district. While some of the speakers of home school offerings at today's event focused on discussing the differences and positive offerings (which I appreciated learning about), it was completely overshadowed by the efforts to target our public schools for serving certain groups of students. Recognizing the benefit of building positive partnerships among different educational organizations in our community (particularly as some kids come in and out of district schools) truly puts the kids in our community first. Pitting one type of educational setting against all others holds no benefit for our kids or community. It serves only to create divisiveness where none should exist. Rather, we should support each other in finding the right fit for our kids and as board members, we should work to ensure that our public schools are the very best they can be.

The Closing

“All Students Should Be Treated with Kindness, Respect and Dignity” - This phrase sat next to Everett's campaign logo on the bottom of each of her slides like a legal disclaimer for the information Everett provided that completely contradicted this notion. Some in the audience had clearly come to learn about alternatives to public school education and listened in a respectful manner. Yet Everett said nothing when some in the audience laughed out loud during a slide referencing the books Sparkle Boy and Heather Has Two Mommies, then again when a slide discussing gender identity was discussed, and yet again at a slide defining the term “non-binary”. But – kindness, respect and dignity...

I anticipate receiving backlash for this post – online, in letters to the ACORN, and in other formats. I recognize that some will be turned off and I willingly accept that risk. Our representatives rarely agree with everything we believe, but I hope that if I had elected someone to work to ensure the best needs of students were being met at school, they would accept this risk for our children.

James 4.12: There is only one lawgiver and judge, and he is able to save and to destroy. But you who judge your neighbor, who are you?

I've been to church a lot in my lifetime – *a lot*. Never once has it felt like such a contrast than it did today as I sat in a place of worship while hatred and vitriol were spewed about children.