



San José
Unified
School District

June 25, 2021

BOARD OF EDUCATION REMOVES POLICE OFFICERS FROM SCHOOLS

Preparing
today's students
to be the
thinkers,
leaders,
and creators
of tomorrow.

Dear San José Unified Community,

We strive to keep our students, families, and employees updated when a major change will affect the entire community. Yesterday, the Board of Education voted to change direction regarding police services on school campuses.

At their meeting, the Board of Education, by a 3-2 vote, did not approve the proposed agreement with the City of San José, ending the long-standing partnership between the San José Unified School District and the San José Police Department.

San José Police Department officers provide a range of services to help keep our students, our staff, and our schools safe, from keeping illegal fireworks off school campuses on the 4th of July to supporting students who are victims of assault. San José Unified staff, following input from students, parents, and employees, recommended continuing the partnership, ensuring officers are not involved in student discipline, receive specialized training to better understand and interact with youth, develop positive relationships with students, and are at schools to maintain a safe and secure environment for students, employees, and the community.

Following their discussion, *the Board of Education voted to end San José Unified's partnership with the San José Police Department.* We understand the magnitude of this issue and recognize that this was not an easy decision to make, as evidenced by the 3-2 vote.

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San José, CA 95126

Our schools have comprehensive safety plans, emergency trainings, and procedures for criminal activity on school campuses which will now need to be altered for the 2021-2022 school year. We will also need to determine how we will replace the range of supports school resource officers provided to both students and staff, and we will likely need to reduce or eliminate large-scale events for public safety purposes as law enforcement support will no longer be available.

We will work together with our students, families, teachers, and staff to adjust plans and implement this change over the next seven weeks to ensure we are ready to welcome students back to school as safely as possible on Wednesday, August 18, 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nancy Albarrán', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nancy Albarrán
Superintendent