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# SCTA NEWS RELEASE

## SACRAMENTO CITY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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### SCTA

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Teachers to Voice Concern Over Budget Priorities, Lack of Transparency at SCUSD Board Meeting

**SACRAMENTO** – After sending out more than 700 layoff notices, the Sacramento City Unified School District superintendent is trying to hire Teach for America corps members, an expensive program that makes use of recent college graduates who have no intention of pursuing a teaching career.

“It is my understanding that the superintendent wants to discontinue using the excellent teacher preparation programs from Sacramento State and U.C. Davis, which have retention rates that exceed 90 percent, in order to promote a more expensive program with less impressive results,” said Linda Tuttle, president of the Sacramento City Teachers Association. “We’re opposed to this, and we’re opposed to the underhanded way the superintendent is going about it.”

The superintendent has not shared information with the school board and the public that allows them to compare the two programs, according to Tuttle. She pointed out that the district will not only be responsible for salary and benefits for the 30 teachers it plans to hire, but will have to pay an additional \$4,000 per position to Teach for America.

“Supt. Raymond likes to talk about transparency; but if he is not sharing this comparison with the school board & the public, then either he never bothered to ask for that data or he likes to keep secrets,” she said.

Tuttle also criticized a plan by the superintendent to offer a 15% percent raise in pay to the new Chief Human Resources Officer before he or she even begins the job.

“We have seen this before: While we scramble to find ways to reduce costs in the classroom, the district attempts give raises to those with the least impact on the classroom in upper management positions.”

As recently as a couple of years ago in the midst of massive teacher lay offs, four Associate Superintendent positions received a 9.22% raise. Tuttle will join dozens of teachers from the district tonight to take up the issue at the school board meeting.

- ◆ **WHAT:** Sacramento City Unified School District board meeting
- ◆ **WHEN:** Tonight, March 18, at 7 p.m.
- ◆ **WHERE:** Serna Center (District Office) 5735 47th Ave. Sacramento, CA 95824.
- ◆ **VISUALS:** Passionate teachers advocating for students.

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*The 2,954 member Sacramento City Teachers Association is an affiliate of the 340,000-member CTA and the 3.2 million-member National Education Association.*