Willie Mims

My name is Willie J. Mims. I am the Education Chair of the East County NAACP. I come again tonight, because of issues of grave concern to me. I thought that I had seen it all with the past vicious attacks by teachers and administrators against previous board members, Debra Vinson & Crystal Sawyer White. The sustained assault, however, against Board President Ellie Householder, is something that I have never witness before. I am in shock!

The 100 plus teachers, the majority of them refusing to cite their names, had the audacity to get upset because President Householder posted some of the district’s state test scores. You call it old data. That may be true, but that data came from the 2018-2019 state test scores. There is no other data. In fact, there was no state test for the 2019-2020 school year. Whatever the data show is not the fault of Ellie Householder. She has never been a teacher in the Antioch School District. So, teachers, you have to look into that looking glass and accept accountability and responsibility for those atrocious test scores.

I plead with all of you to at least identify the school or schools that you teach at. I promise you this that I will personally present your individual school test scores. But I know that you won’t do that. Instead, you will blame the parents and their students.

The parents are not in the classroom. The parents are not responsible for the horrific results of on that 2018-2019 African American low and insulting test scores.

There are three subsections on that test that provide some insight into Antioch’s failed education system.

The African American students who took that test in the 11th grade, and who graduated in 2020, should be classified as victims of an educational racial crime. 94% did not understand how to use mathematical rules and ideas. 97% did not know how to show and apply their problem-solving skills. And 97% did not how to think logically and solve a problem. These are the students who graduated from your schools in 2020.

Willie J. Mims, M.A., Education Chair.

Hotep,

 Willie Mims, M.A.

We view the world through our own racial lens.

Velma Wilson

Good evening AUSD,

I am Velma Wilson and tonight I speak on behalf of the many students and families who feel alone, hopeless, afraid, and just overwhelmed. I want you to that you are loved and this District is here to serve you despite the unnecessary foolishness occurring with the Board.

Trustees are you aware that AUSD has the highest number of foster and homeless students that neighboring Districts just don't want? Why is that, you ask? Children in foster homes move alot and have consistently been so distracted with life that school at times takes a back seat which means educational Data will be affected. These children have been through so much, some are caught in the system for a number of reasons. I ask, does their lives matter? Yes they matter. Foster and homeless students are a diverse population of students that need us. Guess what, their test scores are often low, some of these students may be in 9th grade but functioning at a 4th grade level.

 Approximately two weeks ago, I invited Trustee Clyde Lewis to join me and Shamawn Wright to attend a Lunchtime meet and greet at Deer Valley. Clyde can attest that he walked in to the room with students from all walks of life that needed support, direction and to know that they have village of individuals rooting for their success. It has been moments like this that without the support of Stephanie Anello who supports her school Administrative staff, sessions like this would not happen. A 10th grade student, asked me to send you a message that her and her 6 other foster siblings wrote after listeningtolast last night's meeting, it states, " Thank you Dr. O, Ms. Spires and Ms. Berry for putting up with us. We have been through a lot but we know that we have the power to change our paths through faith and perservence as Ms. Velma tells us all the time. We didn't like school because it was hard to make friends due to moving frequently but we have a safe haven at school, we can eat without sneaking food and has not moved in a while. Three of us lost our mom and dad and have no one but as we get older we just enjoy consistency. We never know when one of us may be moved but so far we have been with our foster parents for almost two years because of COVID. Yes COVID has been a blessing and a curse but it has provided that consistentancy. Miss Anello, please don't leave us we met you when we picked up our laptops at Antioch Middle and you told our foster mother that each of us would receive our own laptop. Do you know how excited we were to hear this? In foster care you don't have much to yourself. We don't have much that we don't share We really just want to say THANK YOU for being great, we need more people like you."

Stephanie Anello has not had an Evaluation nor have goals been set for her or the board. Operate in fairness, if your job that you have been working at for years haphazardly wanted to terminate you without merit, how would you feel? You would want your co-workers to support you. Education is such a thankless career that people stop using commonsense when it comes to governing the Education system. I truly thank God for the passion of supporting Education through my VOLUNTEER efforts with PTA, sitting on the Citizens Oversight Board in addition to the Antioch Schools Education Foundation, Coordinator for the Parent Advisory Committee and the Parent and Student Engagement Liason. Instead of politicizing our schools get involved to help our most vulnerable population, our kids. I was the ONLY parent who assisted and supported families when schools across this country had to shut down due to COVID. I stood alongside Stephanie Anello handing out curriculum, sanitizing laptops, handing out meals and so much more. The only City Councilmember that came out was Lori Ogorchock every time I called her in addition to Mary Rocha and Clyde Lewis. Ellie or Antonio never offered your assistance but now you want to play judge and jury on the work Stephanie has and is doing. Go sit down somewhere and start showing the ENTIRE STAFF, students and families you care by cheering their accomplishments on. Stop being so negative. Someone gave you a chance and cheered for you, get off your high horse and authentically support Stephanie. Collaboration is not one-sided. Set aside your petty differences and find a way to be a champion by supporting our Teachers, staff and the Superintendent because #WeAreAUSD