



Full Disclosure Network[™] “the news behind the news”

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Ms. Marlene Draper
Chairman CUSD Board of Trustees
31141 Via Cristal
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

February 14, 2006

Dear Ms. Draper,

As I believe you know, **FULL DISCLOSURE**[™] is an Emmy Award winning, nationally recognized, independent news program. I am the Producer and Host of the show. The purpose of this letter is to, once again, request that you agree to be interviewed by the Full Disclosure news team.

We have taken great interest in the serious allegations and issues raised by thousands of CUSD constituents during the recent campaign to recall the entire CUSD Board of Trustees. Even though it now appears there will not be a special recall election, we intend to continue investigative report on the serious issues raised by your constituents.

Just to be clear -- our investigative reports are not focused upon the recall itself. We are investigating and reporting upon the allegations of mismanagement, deceit and corruption within CUSD – and we want to hear your side of the story.

This is not the first time we’ve asked for an interview. For the record, here is a brief summary of our many attempts to obtain CUSD’s participation in these investigative reports:

1. Initial Request to CUSD Board President Draper. During the 3rd week in September 2005, I contacted Marlene Draper by telephone to request an interview. Trustee Draper expressed interest in participating, but told me she would first have to check with the other Trustees and their “political consultants.” She then referred our interview request to Faubel Public Relations – the political consultants representing the CUSD Trustees.
2. CUSD Trustees Refuse Interview Request. On October 1, 2005, Brian Lockery of Faubel Public Relations contacted me. He said that the Trustees and the School District had decided not to participate in any interviews due to the pending effort to recall all seven trustees. However, he told me that the Trustees might well be willing to participate in interviews after the period of time to collect and validate the recall petitions had expired.
3. Second Request To CUSD Board President Draper. On December 23, 2005 the Registrar of Voters announced that the recall petitions had not been certified. Later that same day, based upon Mr. Lockery’s representation to me last October, I called Marlene Draper and spoke with her by telephone about an interview. Trustee Draper told me to call back in January so that she could discuss the interview requests with the

Board of Trustees.

4. Personal Requests To Each of the Seven CUSD Trustees. In January of 2006, I called each of the seven Trustees seeking an interview on these serious issues and allegations. I left detailed messages on their voice mail. I talked with only one of the seven CUSD Trustees (Crystal Kochendorfer) all the others did not bother to call me back.
5. Trustees Decide to “Speak With One Voice.” When I spoke with Trustee Kochendorfer she informed me the Trustees had discussed this matter and that the seven elected school board members had decided “to speak with ONE voice” and that Marlene Draper, as Board President had been designated as spokesperson for the Trustees.
6. Third Request to CUSD Board President Draper. After speaking with Trustee Kochendorfer, I once again spoke with Trustee Draper by telephone to request an interview with the CUSD Trustees and Superintendent Fleming. Trustee Draper indicated these interview requests would finally be granted. However, she stated that she wanted Full Disclosure to interview parents from the School District who supported the CUSD Trustees. We agreed to interview those parents, including Doug and Brenda Miercynski, who had become known to us as vocal supporters of the CUSD Trustees and who had each posted very interesting messages on the Full Disclosure internet message board.
7. Trustee Draper Rejects All Interview Requests. On January 24, 2006, I received a voice mail message from Trustee Draper confirming that none of the CUSD supporters, including Mr. and Mrs. Miercynski, were willing to speak on behalf of the District. Trustee Draper but made no reference to our request for CUSD Trustees and Superintendent Fleming to participate in interviews.
8. Full Disclosure Contacts CUSD Director of Communications. On February 1, 2006 I contacted Mr. Smoller, the Director of CUSD Communications to request an interview with any spokesperson on behalf of the CUSD Trustees and Superintendent Fleming. To put it mildly, Mr. Smoller was extremely unprofessional in his manner. Mr. Smoller rambled on about nameless people and complained about derogatory statements made against him and the school district on a "blog." He inferred that somehow these derogatory statements were related to the Full Disclosure news program, although he was not specific. When I attempted to determine more about what was troubling him so, he became boisterous and rude. He finally broke off the conversation by abruptly stating he would check with Superintendent Fleming as to whether our request for an interview would be granted.
9. CUSD Director of Communications Denies Interview Request. On February 4, 2006, after speaking with Superintendent Fleming, Mr. Smoller left a voice mail message at our offices confirming that the School District would not provide a spokesperson to be interviewed.

Your continued refusal to participate in this series of investigative reports about the school district you serve is quite surprising and somewhat alarming. I urge you to reconsider.

As an elected representative of the Capistrano Unified School District, the public wants to hear from you. Our programs are broadcast throughout California on our independent cable television network and nationally via our online video presentations at www.fulldisclosure.net. In South Orange County, our program is broadcast to your constituents on Cox Communications every Wednesday evening.

FULL DISCLOSURE™ wants to hear your side of the story. I assure you, we will ask direct questions and expect direct answers – but we will be fair.

We expect to release our next investigative report relating to CUSD shortly (with additional reports to follow on a regular basis thereafter). If you still refuse to participate, we will be left with no choice but to simply report that fact in each report as it is released.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Leslie C. Dutton
Producer/ Host

Interview requests sent via Certified Mail to:

Sheila Benecke, Trustee
John Casabianca, Trustee
Marlene Draper, Chairman
Duane Stiff, Trustee
Crystal Kochendorfer, Trustee
Shiela Henness, Trustee
Mike Darnold, Trustee
Dr. James A. Fleming, Superintendent
David Doomey, Asst. Superintendent
David Smollar, Communications Dir.