

To put it quite simply and to the point: The current teacher of the Special Ed class at Juan Cabrillo Elementary is abusing our children. Our autistic children, our down syndrome children, our physically disabled children, all of whom have limited to no language. This is a long list here created by the aides of the classroom who were eyewitnesses to these abuses. This classroom is referred to as The Life Skills class. I wonder what Life Skills the teacher is teaching our children when she...see below

The district is nothing if not consistent. Once again, they, led Sara Woolverton, the head of Special Ed, are covering it up. We the parents were finally made aware on the weekend of 10/22. We met with Bekkah Dannelly and Barry Yates on Monday 10/24 telling them we have knowledge of these acts. They said they would investigate. The teacher remained present in the classroom that day and the next day, then was taken to Grant Elementary to "observe". This directly implies that the district chose to not pay heed to these allegations of abuse. That Friday 10/28, just 5 days later, we had a meeting at district offices. At this meeting, which is taped, Sara Woolverton:

1. Stated that the aides are committing a mutiny because the teacher is actually making them work, whereas last year, they could do whatever they wanted in the room. She stated that the aides are not credible and not trustworthy, that they have agendas. (These are YOUR employees). IF ONLY the aides felt that they wielded that much power, that their voices or actions would make a difference to the administration. In fact, they have lived in fear of retaliation by the teacher and district, they have been on "gag orders" to us parents, they fear for their jobs. BUT...the acts of this teacher are so atrocious, they have come forward. THEY are the ones who care for our kids. They tried to tell Barry Yates, who did nothing, HR, who told one aide she was out of line, 2 drove to the district office to see Sara, they were turned away. Bekkah Dannelly told them as a group that the teacher is responsible for the classroom, and the aides must follow her lead even if they disagree.

2. Also during this meeting, Barry Yates handed us parents a "letter" with the conclusions of his investigation. On this letter, it only refers to a SINGULAR incident, never referring to any others. Yates and the district are in violation of California Penal Code 11165.7. as they are mandated reporters of suspicions of child abuse. They had MUCH to report, they failed to do so. These penal codes clearly define every act on these lists committed by this teacher as child abuse and neglect. Again, nothing was ever reported. We, as well as the aides have definitively reported other allegations to Yates and administrators. All were ignored. When I asked Sara in the meeting of why they were not investigated, she gave me name, rank and serial number: The singular incident reported has been investigated and no wrongdoing, blah blah. When I asked her then if that meant she and the district then felt the other allegations did not warrant an investigation, and that those abuses are appropriate and can occur again, I was again met with name rank and serial: The singular incident, blah, blah, blah. No real answers to my very real questions.

Sara also asserts that because they as the team, and no other teachers and staff at Cabrillo have witnessed any of these occurrences, then they did not happen. I asked Sara: "is it then safe to assume that when Thomas Beltran was molesting 11 middle school aged girls at Lincoln Middle, that because no other teachers or administrators witnessed him in these acts

with little girls, that it indeed did not happen? Because we know that happened. We know he is serving 14 years in prison for child molestation. The girls he molested? They are serving life sentences...of shame, of guilt, of nightmares, of distrust, of fear, of dignity of innocence robbed from them. I wonder how many of these little girls could have been spared if SMMUSD did NOT cover up for Beltran in 2006, if they would have actually cared for a child and that child's voice. How many victims are you going to allow this teacher to leave in her wake? You must not allow ANY. You are OUR Board of Education, OUR constituents, OUR elected officials...it is your fiduciary duty to act upon this now. She is not tenured, she is a new employee, she is a child abuser. Remove her immediately. We have retained legal counsel, we are fighting, and La Sheriff's are investigating, they are collecting more statements and receiving these lists.

Some examples:

She stood over a 9 year old girl who is immobile and in leg and arm braces while she was on the toilet, and was very loudly and sternly demanding that she go to the bathroom. The girl panicked and overwhelmed, was screaming, OH NO, NO HELP! PLEASE HELP! She has left the girl on the toilet for 20+ minutes, again with her distraught and panicked as she is immobile crying for help. Her mother Vicky says she is now completely afraid to even go in the bathroom at all. The girl is in full leg braces and needs tremendous support to even stand. The teacher has made her stand by herself next to a table with no support but that of her own hands, directing her to stand alone and hold herself up. The girl, afraid was yelling WHOA, WHOA, I'M GOING TO FALL! She (the teacher) told the aide to put pillows behind her and if she falls, then that's how she learns. She pulls her by her underwear and her shirt to make her walk. She has physically used her body to restrain other students, restraining their entire bodies, my daughter included (She is at least 100 pounds bigger) just to make them sit at a table, or finish circle time. This scares and greatly panics them. If they try to get away, she aggressively pulls them back firmly gripping onto the child's arm. She has restrained a child by squeezing their head, she has strapped a boy down to a chair, again just to do circle time. She left him there, in physical restraints, even when circle was over. It was not until the aide returned from break that he was released. The list is long and endless..there is much more.