



# Memo

To: Debbie Mulvaney (Samohi PTA President), Pattie Fitzgerald, Karen Gardner (Lincoln M.S. PTA Co-Presidents)

From: Superintendent Tim Cuneo

CC: Board of Education, Hugo Pedroza (Samohi Principal), Eva Mayoral (John Adams M.S. Principal), Suzanne Webb (Lincoln M.S. Principal), Shari Davis (SMMUSD PTA President)

Date: August 31, 2010

Re: An Email Regarding a Samohi Teacher

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You may have received a printed copy of an email communication written by an attorney, Patrick De Carolis, regarding allegations made against a Santa Monica High School teacher, Ari Marken. The email contains one-sided and inaccurate allegations.

The district is absolutely committed to protecting the safety of our students and takes any such allegations seriously. These charges have been referred to the district office and its attorneys, and the district has complied with all legal obligations in the handling of this matter. A thorough investigation was conducted by an outside investigator. All appropriate actions were taken to ensure student safety.

The dissemination of this material is highly inappropriate. It involves a confidential personnel matter, the release of which is subject to legal protections. Please destroy all copies of the email and do not forward it or discuss the content of the email with others.

The district is committed to providing a safe and effective learning environment for all students. Parents can be reassured and have their students return to Santa Monica High School with confidence.