

June 7, 2017

Hola, my name is Sandra Aguila. I have been in the education field for about 32 years. If I count the years as a preschool teacher, parapro worker in Seattle, and 19 years in Highline as an elementary teacher. I am an immigrant and I finished my studies here in the United States. English is my second language. I am here because I want to communicate to this school board my thoughts.

I am strong supporter of Unions. My mother was a unionist and she gave me the legacy that we workers need a union in order to becoming a power force in this society. That is why I continue as an active member of our teachers union. I became a teacher because my uncle was a teacher. He was killed in El Salvador because he was a part of the teacher association. Teachers did not have the right to organize in unions, they couldn't demonstrate in the street, and they did not have the right to bargain salaries and working conditions.

I am very proud to be in the United States because the principles of democracy in this country are the principles that we were fighting **for** in El Salvador. The principle of **being** treated with respect and dignity. The principle that we can get a seat at the table as equals with administrators in this district to discuss and bargain our terms in regard to salaries, benefits and working conditions.

I want to encourage this district to continue to support this democratic principle: the right to bargain locally and be treated with respect. I am requesting that the HSD school board direct Dr. Enfield to remove her signature from the PSED letter that superintendents recently signed and show our community that the Highline School District upholds the basic democratic principle of collective bargaining for our wages. This would help to demonstrate the respect we deserve as educators in this district.

Thank You