

SUGGESTED TEMPLATE FOR LETTER WRITING

Recipients

D8 Supervisor Mandelman: mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org

• Legislative aid: henry.deruff@sfgov.org

School Board Officers: boardoffice@sfusd.edu

- Matt Alexander (President) mattalexander@sfusd.edu
- Lisa Weissman-Ward (Vice President) lisaweissman-ward@sfusd.edu
- **Kevine Boggess** kevineboggess@sfusd.edu
- Alida Fisher alidafisher@sfusd.edu
- Phil Kim philkim@sfusd.edu
- Jenny Lam jennylam@sfusd.edu
- Mark Sanchez marksanchez@sfusd.edu

Senator Scott Weiner: https://sd11.senate.ca.gov/contact

Mayor London Breed: <u>MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org</u>

Template letter

Dear {Recipient Name},

I am an active voter in San Francisco. I urge you to oppose SFUSD school closures.

Small neighborhood schools are vital to the local community, foster strong family connections, and are a critical part of SFUSD's portfolio. Yet the schools that SFUSD wants to close are small schools that serve distinct communities, including Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy.

I want to emphasize my concern about the closure of HMCRA. HMCRA offers a unique social justice and <u>civil rights curriculum</u> centered on identity, race, social change, and activism. Located in the heart of the Castro District, a historic epicenter of LGBTQIA+ activism and the fight for equality, the school is a safe haven for the queer community and their allies. SFUSD's so-called "equity" metric, used to calculate scores and identify schools for closure, fails to take into account LGBTQIA+ populations and the community that has been intentionally built around them.

Additionally, SFUSD has no plan for immediate use of the HMCRA campus if it closes the school, which has been at the same location since 1891. The district says the site could potentially become an early education center, for which there is questionable demand and no actual plan. HMCRA's closure could leave the site vacant and at risk of becoming neighborhood blight.

SFUSD must focus on remedying its history of fiscal mismanagement. Its proposed closures are short-sighted, do not address the scale of its budget problems, and will harm children and families.

Thank you, {Name}