



BEVERLY HILLS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Educational Employees Working Together

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Speech on politics delivered by BHEA Pres. Chris Bushée at the Feb. 10, 2009 Board of Education meeting:

“Good afternoon. Tonight’s agenda has an item whereby the Board is scheduled to approve a proclamation for an individual who happens to be a candidate in next month’s City Council election. I do not take issue with the recipient of the proclamation. Rather, I question the timing. In fact, I would be here today saying the same thing to you if the recipient of the proclamation had been any of the other 10 candidates in the race.

I think that the stakeholders of the Beverly Hills Unified School District expect that politics will not enter into the official business that you conduct on behalf of the public. For the Board of Education to approve any proclamation of either praise or dissent for any candidate less than a month before election day runs the risk of devaluing the meaning of the proclamation, not to mention the risk of the public questioning the political motives of such an action.

If the Board feels compelled to approve a proclamation such as the one under consideration later tonight, then I suggest doing so after the March 3 election. Thank you.”