

## Board Meeting Comments

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**To:** Stephen Petzold  
**Subject:** RE: Public Request for Agenda Item October 9, 2024 Regular Meeting

On Sun, Sep 22, 2024 at 4:58 AM Stephen Petzold <[REDACTED]> wrote:  
September 22, 2024

Interim President Andrus and President Alonso,

Per Education Code 35145.5 and Board Policy 2340 I am exercising my privilege to request that an item be placed on the agenda for your regular meeting on October 9, 2024.

Government Code 54963 commonly referred to as the Brown Act , subsection (a) prohibits the release of “confidential information” defined in section (b), “unless the legislative body authorizes disclosure of that confidential information.”

I am requesting that an item be placed on the October 9 agenda that would allow you to disclose that confidential information in the meeting following the formal roll call vote.

“Shall the Governing Board of the SCCCDC vote to authorize the public disclosure of confidential information defined in Government Code 54953 (b) acquired in a series of closed session meetings between June 12, 2024 and July 10,2024 involving the discipline removal or dismissal of Chancellor Diane G Van Hook. Yes or No”

Shall the vote be in the affirmative favoring disclosure there should be another agenda item on the October 9, 2024 that will allow the disclosure of that information immediately.

The closed session items in the agendas were subject to Sections 54957 and 54957.6.

Trustees Edel Alonso and Jerry Danielsen have made public statements indicating that disclosure would be a violation of law. This is very misleading and at best a reflects a lack of understanding of the Brown Act wording.

It is clear to many that the value of public disclosure of the “confidential information” which resulted in a transformation of the SCCCDC administration far outweighs the value of continuing complete and absolute confidentiality, that is not guaranteed in the Brown Act.

We ask you to take immediate action on October 9, 2024 to increase transparency and share this information with the public in light of the fact that Dr. Dianne G Van Hook has now retired from the SCCCDC.

I look forward to a prompt response to my lawful request.

Steve Petzold  
Open Government Advocate

