**SAMPLE LETTER #1**

Dear PUSD Board of Education Members,

I’m a resident of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ community and am opposed to your plan to lease the Santaluz Middle School Site to Costco. There are far better uses for this land. Despite PUSD indicating that “no one has been chosen” or “it’s not finalized yet”, they invited a Costco representative to participate at the court hearing on Nov 20, 2020. Why were they part of PUSD’s legal strategy?

Second, I am disappointed and appalled by how the district board members, staff and consultants managed this whole process. Based on the actions taken by the district and its representatives, it is clear that you did not follow the process to ensure that community input was taken into consideration. I read the court transcript and am surprised by how the PUSD attorneys characterized the events leading up to today. Your attorney made it sound as if the 2012 RPAC activities (which took place over a 4 month period and involved numerous meetings and a thorough analysis) was the same as the reconvened 2019 RPAC which appeared to be more a formality it only took a total of 9 business days. The district simply cannot justify that they know the land is surplus BECAUSE there was no analysis done in 2019 forecasting that a school was not needed for the next 40-60 years. I am shocked by the following quotes from your attorney at the court hearing:

PUSD Attorney:

1. “ The district has already done more than it’s required to obtain community input.”
2. “Oftentimes, in these situations, there’s vocal community members who are disappointed, who believe that the process was against their best interest, but the board is required to consider that with other comments from the community and then make the decision that’s in the best interest of the district”
3. “The community input process is not intended and does not require the district to get the community involved in determining which proposal is the best and what value it has.”

However, my question is: Who in the community supports this? Overwhelmingly, all the comments submitted to the district board meetings opposed the district’s plan to lease to Costco. There has not been a SINGLE letter indicating support for building this Costco on land designated for a middle school.

I encourage PUSD to stop its discussions with Costco and begin working with the community to find the best use of this land.

Sincerely,