

## Discord Meets Democracy

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When it comes to public schools, “no city has experienced the level of discord as that in San Francisco,” reports *The Washington Post*.

That’s because, as *The Post* posits, “the San Francisco school board has been operating” with “a heavy focus on controversial, difficult racial issues, and slow progress on school reopening.”

***Thankfully, San Franciscans have launched a recall campaign against three members of the seven-member school board: President Gabriela López, Vice President Faauga Moliga and Commissioner Alison M. Collins.***

A sampling:

- “In January, the school board voted to rename 44 schools” with purported “connections to slavery, oppression and racism” — though *The Post* notes “the alleged ties were thin or, in some cases, historically questionable or inaccurate.”\*
- One of the most controversial moves by the board was “[c]hanging the admissions process for the elite Lowell High School — eliminating grades and test scores and admitting students by a ranked-choice lottery.” As *The Post* explains, “the change means that students with the best grades and scores may



not be admitted.”

- The school board removed Commissioner Alison Collins as Vice President in March, after her anti-Asian tweets from 2016 came to light. She called Asian Americans (who happen to *disproportionally* earn entry to Lowell) “house n\*\*\*\*rs” who employed “white supremacist thinking to assimilate and ‘get ahead.’”\*\*

“Through all this, the city’s school buildings remained closed,” notes *The Post*, “even as private schools in the area and public schools elsewhere in the region operated in person.”

Thankfully, San Franciscans have launched a recall campaign against three members of the seven-member school board: President Gabriela López, Vice President Faauga Moliga and Commissioner Alison M. Collins.

The best thing for public education in Frisco will be to school these “first” recall targets in the power of the citizenry.

This is Common Sense. I’m Paul Jacob.

\* Facing a lawsuit, the board voted unanimously to rescind their renaming of those “injustice-linked” schools” — just a few months after the original vote.

\*\* In response, Collins is suing the board for \$87 million.