

I am a retired teacher and a member of the Alliance for Phila. Public Schools and would like to see the SRC settle our APPS lawsuit charging you with violating the Sunshine Act. Negotiate with us instead of paying high fees to a law firm.

Given that the public has only 3 minutes once a month to address the src with any questions or concerns it is breathtaking that answers are not forthcoming and that resolutions published in a less than a timely manner. The SRC is the governing decision making body and yet we, as tax payers and citizens, have little time in which to seek answers from you. It's interesting to hear Chair Neff's responding to the many requests for more input from the public. My concern is keeping questions and answers in the public view.

Both the District and SRC have learned that they do not want push back from the public so tactics and language are changed. Instead of closing schools they are now consolidated or transformed. Instead of adhering to the school code regarding public hearings you are now considering amending the school code to allow for a shorter period of public comment so that you can shutter yet another school, Kensington Urban Education Academy. Instead of following the state sunshine act the SRC seems intent on continuing to shut out the public's voice.

I have many questions about SRC Resolution 9 and hope that chairwoman Neff you will do as chairman Ramos did back in 2011 and allow questions from the audience on this urgent issue suddenly popping up on the agenda. Chairman Ramos actually asked for comments from the audience. I hope that you will follow in his footsteps and do the same starting tonight.

What benefits the district from participating in the Tax Increment Financing District program (SRC 9). My understanding is that TIF gives a break from paying taxes to the developer so why would the district want to support anything that lowers potential revenue? My understanding of TIF is that it applies to blighted areas. I wasn't aware that 11th & Market fits this criteria.

Last month I asked what happened to the playground equipment at the Walnut Center, the early childhood annex of the Charles R. Drew school. The answer I received from the district did not address this. I still want to know what happened to the playground equipment. If you close down schools then you should know where the equipment goes. Your credibility plummets when you do not answer questions.

Karel Kilimnik

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