



August 7, 2018

To All Members of the Banning Unified School District Community:

I have very important information to share with you as we prepare for the opening day of school tomorrow, and I thank you for your kind attention to this message. The Banning Teachers Association notified me that they intend to strike beginning tomorrow, but I want to assure you that we are taking the necessary steps to ensure that school opens tomorrow for the 4,565 children we serve. The District leadership team is now securing substitute teachers, and our terrific school principals are preparing to greet the substitutes and help to ensure a smooth opening to school.

Below I offer some additional information that I hope will answer your questions (Refer to FAQ's attachment). Of course, if you have concerns or questions that are not addressed in this message, you can reach me at (951)922-0205. You are welcome to set up a meeting with me.

On a personal note, I want to say how distasteful and unprofessional I find this action. The union leadership knows full well that we can meet to discuss disagreements, and that they need not take action to disrupt our children's education in order to be heard. Ideally, we would all share the goal that our children's education is the paramount priority, and adult issues and concerns need to be addressed in a manner that does not compromise our commitment to this goal.

Please know that we are committed to ensuring a smooth opening to school and a great beginning to the 2018-19 school year for all students.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert T. Guillen", is written over a white background.

Robert T. Guillen, Superintendent

RTG:mo