



Council on American-Islamic Relations

Greater Los Angeles Area Chapter

2180 W. Crescent Avenue, Suite F,

Anaheim, CA 92801

Tel (714) 776-1847 Fax (714) 776-8340 cairla.org

August 10, 2026

Board of Education

Artesia, Bloomfield, and Carmenita Unified School Districts

16700 Norwalk Boulevard

Cerritos, CA 90703

RE: Formal Complaint Regarding Hateful Public Comment at the August 4, 2026, Board Meeting and the Board's Failure To Respond

Dear Members of the ABC Unified School District Board of Education,

I am writing to express my deep concern and outrage regarding an incident that occurred during the Artesia, Bloomfield, and Carmenita Unified School District (ABCUSD) meeting on August 4, 2026. A member of the public, who identified himself as Rudy Krause, was permitted to deliver remarks that were xenophobic, Islamophobic, and hateful in nature. The content of his harmful comments had no discernible connection to the business or jurisdiction of the ABCUSD. This letter demands accountability and a clear commitment from the ABCUSD Board that it condemns and stands against anti-Muslim hate.

Prior to the public comment portion of the meeting, Board Clerk and Area 1 Trustee Leticia Mendoza stated, "Adverse remarks about a person's race, ancestry, ethnic group identification, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender, mental or physical disability, or age may not be made." Mr. Krause was the first to make public comment after those instructions and allowed to speak for the full three minutes, during which he made hateful anti-Muslim comments specifically targeting the American Muslim community including, "Diversity is our greatest strength, that's what you guy teach, that's a lie...Look at Europe, all of Europe has been taken over by Islam, Muslims. It's a culture of rape and pedophilia. Do you think rape and pedophilia is our greatest strength?" and "You cannot allow the 'Muslimification' of the United States ... I want all the women here ... put your burkas on and don't make any comments. Otherwise, you're going to be stoned to death in the town square."

It is well established that the board holds the authority to regulate its meetings to ensure that public comments are limited to agenda items or non-agenda items within the board's subject



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matter jurisdiction; Mr. Krause's comments did not fall under either of these categories. As his remarks veered clearly off-topic and descended into hateful vitriol targeting Muslim communities, the board had both the authority and the obligation to intervene. Instead, board members sat silently, allowing hate speech to continue unchallenged from the dais of a public institution dedicated to the education and well-being of all students.

Equally troubling was the absence of any response from the Board President or other board members following the speaker's comments. At the bare minimum, the Board President owed the audience (and the broader community) a clear, unequivocal statement condemning the hate speech that had just been delivered at a public meeting of a school district. ABCUSD is home to a significant number of Muslim students; the silence following such hateful comments sends a profoundly damaging message to every Muslim student, every immigrant family, and every community member who looks to this board for leadership.

The ABCUSD serves one of the most diverse student populations in the State of California. Its Board of Education must reflect the values of inclusion, equity, and dignity that the District espouses. Allowing hate speech to go unchecked and then failing to publicly condemn it undermines those values and erodes the trust of the very communities the board is charged to represent.

I am therefore calling upon the board to immediately and publicly condemn the hateful and Islamophobic remarks made during the August 4, 2026, meeting, and affirm the District's commitment to the safety and dignity of all students and community members.

The students and families of Artesia, Bloomfield and Carmenita deserve a Board of Education that leads with courage, consistency, and integrity. I urge the board to meet this moment and demonstrate, through decisive action, that hate has no place in the ABCUSD. **Please provide us with a response to this letter by August 14, 2026.**

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hussam Ayloush".

Hussam Ayloush, M.B.A. | Executive Director
Council on American-Islamic Relations, California



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CC: Francisco Noyola, Board President, francisco.noyola@abcusd.us
Tatiana Yokoyama Bui, Esq, Board Vice President, tatiana.yokoyamabui@abcusd.us
Leticia Mendoza, Board Clerk, leticia.mendoza@abcusd.us
Jean M. McHatton, Board Member, jeanie.mchatton@abcusd.us
Ernie Nishii, Board Member, ernie.nishii@abcusd.us
Dr. Olga Rios, Board Member, olga.rios@abcusd.us
Mrs. Soo Yoo, Board Member, soo.yoo@abcusd.us