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A State of California Administrative Law Judge presiding over Sacramento City Unified School District certificated employee layoff hearings has issued a finding that agrees with the school district on most of the issues regarding its layoffs, validating most of the Board of Education's certificated layoffs and skipping criteria ("skipping" refers to Board-approved criteria that allows staff with specialized training and/or qualifications to be "skipped" as part of the layoff process, regardless of their seniority).

Judge Catherine B. Frink's ruling is a victory for SCUSD's "Priority Schools," a group of schools getting extra resources this year to help overcome poor past academic performance.

In an order issued Friday, the judge largely supported the skipping of certificated staff at nearly all of the district's Priority Schools, noting that the "intensive" training at these schools met the legal standard for the "special training and experience" required to justify skipping certain certificated employees when layoffs are made.

In response to the findings, Superintendent Jonathan Raymond issued the following statement:

Judge Frink found against the district in the case of Hiram Johnson High School, where implementing staff trainings are more complex due to the larger staff size.

The Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education will consider the Administrative Law Judge's findings at a special meeting on Tuesday, May 10 at 5:00 p.m.