

**LETTER: Hanson hurts alternative ed**

03.12.14

I wonder if the public, and especially the parents of Fresno Unified School District students, are aware that FUSD Superintendent Michael Hanson is single-handedly dismantling two effective and successful alternative education high school campuses.

These two schools, J.E. Young Academic Center and DeWolf Continuation High School service at-risk students primarily. Despite this special service by these two institutions, Hanson has dispatched a number of these students back to their neighborhood schools where many of them were either failing out or acting up in their classes in the first place.

J.E. Young and DeWolf service students with extra needs: new mothers, those who are pregnant, gang members, bullies and those bullied, the homeless, the chronically truant and students with medical conditions.

The transition from the separate alternative education campuses of J.E. Young and DeWolf to the mainstream high schools is an awkward one. Specifically, former students of the main J.E. Young campus have to enroll in two daily classes at their neighborhood high school and to attend independent study with a third teacher. This is not popular with the regular education high schools that sent those students away to alternative site high schools in the first place.

Eric Evenson

Ahwahnee