

San Diego Unified: Let's Delete Emails First, Let Board Ask Questions Later

Posted By [Ashly McGlone](#) On June 16, 2017 @ 5:43 pm

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San Diego Unified School District plans to purge nearly all email messages older than 6 months on July 1. It may do so before the public or school board even has a chance to weigh in.

The district's change to its record retention policy may also wipe out old emails that were requested under the California Public Records Act long before the policy went into effect, according to the district's legal office.

Voice of San Diego is still waiting for certain budget-related emails sent in 2016 that may reveal what district leadership knew about the impending multimillion-dollar shortfall that left roughly a thousand employees without a job next year.

The district is scheduled to produce those emails by July 21, 14 weeks after they were requested, but Jeffrey Day, a legal specialist for San Diego Unified, said there's no guarantee that will still occur.

"Public Records Act requests received prior to June 8, 2017 have been submitted to our Integrated Technologies Support Services Department. June 8, 2017 was the date the new Email Retention Policy was announced. The Integrated Technologies Support Services Department is doing their best to make sure that all the requests get processed prior to the transition, however we cannot guarantee that all of them will be completed by that date," Day wrote.

On Friday, San Diegans for Open Government made a public records request for all emails set to be deleted. [The group said it believes](#) ^[1] it would be illegal for the district to begin deleting messages on July 1.
