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Letters to the Editor: City must focus on fixing blights on the streets

San Francisco Chronicle readers

Updated: March 16, 2021 4 a.m.



At the most recent board meeting last week, parents of all races and economic backgrounds had a chance to voice their opinions for and against reopening. In addition, the school board provides translation for multiple languages to make sure people who don't speak English can participate. In my opinion, Oakland city government and the Oakland school board directors have gone above and beyond to solicit feedback from every family in Oakland regardless of their race, language and wealth.

Scott Williams, Oakland

Universal health care

I read "['Normal' won't work anymore](#)" (March 14) with great interest. I agree that all stakeholders must come together to recover from the pandemic, and that an equitable recovery must include quality jobs, affordable housing, transportation infrastructure, and a sustainable climate. Astounding to me was the omission of how critical it is for workers to have adequate health care that is not tied to employment.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the terrible inequities in our health care system. Low wage workers who lost jobs frequently also lost their health care. We cannot begin to compete in the global market until we join the 60-plus countries that provide universal health care. Current efforts in Congress and in the California Legislature (AB1400) to provide publicly funded universal health care are worthy of serious discussion.

Marian Shostrom, Pleasant Hill

Troubled history

Now that the San Francisco School Board has temporarily backed off changing the names of local school sites, we need to have a discussion about how to look at our nation's history.

If we see history as a morality play, a battle between good and evil, we are going to have a hard time finding any heroes to celebrate.

I grew up admiring Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull; but if I were a Pawnee or a Crow, tribes that were