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The Capistrano Dispatch

KEITH STROUD YOUR TOWN, THE NEW ERA

## **Chapter IV: Discord at the School Board**

The Your Town Unified School District's board of education president, Ibea Adnausea, called the meeting to order.

"We didn't have enough time during our last closed session to find enough evidence to fire the brand new superintendent, Mr. Carver, but we were close enough that we think we can make a case for doing it this week. After all, he's been at the job for almost six months and that certainly should be enough time for him to have committed plenty of picky mistakes that we can hang this guy out to dry in short order. Any comments from the floor before we march the firing squad out into the back alley and finish this upstart off?"

An obviously uninformed citizen was given the podium.

"Hi! My name is Tearful Morality, and I think you should fire the Supe because he accepted the salary he was offered instead of donating it to the students for a new lunch program. I also think the teachers should refuse any raise in their salary and actually give back a half of their last three years income to donate it to illegal Canadians."

"Thank you, miss Morality, we need more clear thinking people like yourself to come forward with idiotic statements that will make our primary job of disrupting normal school business so much easier. Any other comments before we ax this poor boob?" "Me...me...me!" an elderly man sitting the middle seat of the first row where he'd been sitting for five hours so he wouldn't miss a minute of the hate.

"My name is Sadlie Lacking, and I'm an ex-administrator who got fired my last job, so I know all there is about education, administration, honesty, and..."

"Mr. Lacking, please limit your comments to three minutes, or I'll have to have you thrown into the street." Miss Adnausea banged her little wooden scythe on the desk. "Oh no you don't, miss smart mouth. You and that ignorant newspaper guy Voltmeter are the reason this district is on its last legs. I pay my 1.6 percent school tax every year and I'm entitled to be heard! I was once a great administrator and they fired me for no good reason, so now I'm going to make sure I give everyone a really good reason for thinking I'm incompetent and rather ignorant!"

“Enough, Mr. Lacking, sit down and let us get on with the witch hunt so we can cement our reputations as thoughtless, revenge seeking people who are here to serve the chirren...ah...chickens...ah chippings...er...never mind. Meeting’s adjourned!”

*Keith Stroud is a former high school principal and golf coach who is now an author.*