
The “Mama Bear” is Coming to Town!

By Mike Greer: *Blowing in the Wind* August 27, 2026

Have you ever seen that classic highway sign: “Watch Out for Bears”? Complete with a cute picture of a mama bear ushering her cubs safely across the road, it’s a perfect depiction of caution, strength, determination, and fierce, unconditional love.

During a hike along the Pacific Crest Trail in Alpine County, just south of Lake Tahoe, I experienced this firsthand. After spotting a bear, we quietly and cautiously backed away.

Just ten minutes later, two young cubs wandered onto the trail. Had we stayed, we would have been caught directly in the middle, and as anyone who knows the forest will tell you, a mama bear becomes highly dangerous and fierce if she senses her cubs are in jeopardy.

Fortunately, danger was averted, and we made it safely to our lakeside camp. But danger isn’t just in the forest anymore. Sometimes, the mama bear needs to come to town. Get ready to witness a different kind of Mama Bear defending her cubs and yours, right here in town.

On September 12, one of the state’s most passionate and feared mothers is coming to the Veterans Hall in Crescent City to share her relentless struggle to keep our children safe in these turbulent times.

Sonja Shaw, School Board President in Chino Valley and winner of the California primary for Superintendent of Public Instruction, is stepping up to the microphone. She will share the story of how Governor Newsom and his minions of clowns took her district to court simply because of her unwavering belief that parents have a fundamental right to guide their children’s education.

When Sacramento tried to enforce unconstitutional mandates on Chino Valley’s district of approximately 27,000 students, Sonja Shaw didn’t back down. The Governor sued her district twice—and lost both times. Even when local partisan judges initially ruled in the state’s favor, those decisions were ultimately overturned.

So, what is it about this “Mama Bear” that has Sacramento’s leadership so infuriated? She champions the right of families to have a real voice in their children’s education, refusing to let parents be shut out by Sacramento school officials.

She firmly believes that girl’s sports should be reserved for biological girls. She believes that boys and girls should use lockers and bathrooms corresponding to their biological gender at birth. She advocates for age-appropriate books in schools, pointing out a simple truth:

If a book is too explicit to be read aloud at a public school board meeting, it has no business being read in a children's classroom.

After years of academic decline, Sacramento's response has been to strip authority from an elected constitutional education office and hand power to an appointed education "czar" who answers only to the Governor, a change that state legislators Rogers and McGuire eagerly celebrated (and maybe even danced around in their offices!) when it passed.

Interesting that it only happened after Sonja Shaw won the primary instead of the last 6 years of mismanagement and failures. Many feel the state is trying to seize sole control over our children's education, ignoring the religious, community, and social beliefs of local families.

We need real change. We need a fighter who will stand up for accountability in education in Sacramento, and that is a Mama Bear with a cause, Sonja Shaw!

There are a limited number of ticket available, so get one, while you can.