



Lisa Floyd &lt;lfloyd@orangesouthwest.org&gt;

**Request for Temporary Deferral**

6 messages

Phillip A. Sechler &lt;psechler@adflegal.org&gt;

Sun, Oct 23, 2022 at 7:26 PM

To: "rucoprincipals@orangesouthwest.org" &lt;rucoprincipals@orangesouthwest.org&gt;

Cc: Tyson Langhofer &lt;tlanghofer@adflegal.org&gt;, Travis Allen &lt;tallen4@vtc.edu&gt;, Jessica Allen &lt;jallen3158@yahoo.com&gt;

Dear Ms. Floyd &amp; Ms. Sutton:

We have been retained to represent [redacted] in connection with the discipline that Randolph Union High School imposed upon her on Friday, October 21, 2022. We believe this discipline violates [redacted] constitutional rights of free speech, and we expect to be challenging the school's actions in short order. We are in receipt of the email you sent [redacted] parents at 5:30 pm this evening, stating that you expect [redacted] begin her suspension tomorrow morning. In light of our imminent challenge to the validity of the school's disciplinary action, we would ask that you defer [redacted] suspension until we can communicate with the school's counsel and discuss a schedule by which to present our claims to the United States District Court for the District of Vermont. Therefore, please let us know whether [redacted] attend school tomorrow, and whether any suspension can be deferred at least until such time as the school's counsel discusses with us a schedule for our challenge. I of course would appreciate being put in touch with your counsel.

We note that you stated in your email that you would not be available any further this evening. Given the shortness of time, we will suggest that [redacted] show up for school in hopes that you will accede to our temporary request.

Very truly yours,

Phil Sechler



Philip A. Sechler  
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**Redacted**



Lisa Floyd &lt;lfloyd@orangesouthwest.org&gt;

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**Fwd: OSSD Community Message 10.30.22**

1 message

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**Layne Millington** <lmillington@orangesouthwest.org>  
Bcc: cabinet@orangesouthwest.org

Sun, Oct 30, 2022 at 12:21 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Layne Millington** <lmillington@orangesouthwest.org>  
Date: Sun, Oct 30, 2022 at 12:17 PM  
Subject: OSSD Community Message 10.30.22  
To: <lmillington@orangesouthwest.org>

Dear OSSD Community,

I wanted update folks on the postponed open forum. We are looking at the week of November 14<sup>th</sup>, as things are active right now and will likely escalate through the election. The first meeting will be a work session focused on brainstorming additional ideas the district may be able to implement that can help bring the school community together. Many ideas have been shared already, but very few align with the regulations we are compelled to uphold, which makes easy solutions problematic at best. Our hope however is to generate an action plan that is not only effective for us, but which can serve as a model for other districts; we'll need everyone's best ideas to make this happen. We are also working with a variety of community groups across the state to create and deliver a plan to address the divide that exists within the greater community since what is happening in our schools is merely a reflection of what exists directly outside our doors. We will send out a further update with dates and times on Friday following the election

As I reflect on the past few weeks, I try to look through what the district has experienced to try and find the core issue so it can be addressed. Beneath the threatening phone calls and emails, the political theatre, and the information (some true, some false) spread far and wide by social media; beneath it all, exists the real concern. What I see is a continuum: on one side there is free speech and on the other a right to be free from discrimination and unequal treatment. This fight appears to be about where one ends and the other begins.

As I close out this message, I think it's important for folks to understand the current landscape in which the district exists: the Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) has been active in local matters. The ADF is flagged as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center: <https://www.splcenter.org/news/2020/04/10/why-alliance-defending-freedom-hate-group>

I look forward to connecting with the community on the work we have before us and will send out a meeting update on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Most Sincerely,

Layne Millington