

December 11, 2018

Osseo Independent School District #279
11200 93rd Ave North
Maple Grove MN 55369

CC:

Dear Leaders,

I am writing on behalf of [Me to We Racial Healing](#), an international [group](#) based in Minnesota. We are deeply by the lack of response the xxx family has recieved from your district, both regarding the recent incident and previous ones.

Our understanding is that the following happened:

Comments like these should be enough to convince anyone that Mr. Gerhart hasn't the [emotional intelligence](#) to lead any organization, let alone one of the largest school districts in the state of Minnesota. His vigilantistic idea to patrol the district's twenty-five (25) schools is not only astonishingly irresponsible, it is dangerously ill-informed.

It is all but confirmed that the Osseo school system is one of forty-three (43) currently being investigated by the [Minnesota Department of Human Rights \(MDHR\)](#). Indeed, Osseo has long struggled with racial equity. It's [poor performance with minority students](#) is the focus of a 2015 lawsuit against the state. The termination of one of the district's rare black teachers, [after she complained about racially insensitive](#) behaviors, is currently under investigation. Last year, an Osseo student was arrested for what the Superintendent called "[despicable racial slurs \(were\) written inside a bathroom](#)." It left [Maple Grove High School's principal "horrified"](#) and ever more convinced "of the pressing need in our schools, our community and our nation to find ways to talk about race." Meanwhile, Mr. Gerhart, their school board chair, was fudging his own district's data, telling media that it had "[80% white teachers](#)", when the district's own media puts the number at 95%. It's not that people haven't tried to help the district, in spite of Mr. Gerhart's capriciousness.

Against the desires of many teachers, parents and residents, the school board recently terminated its relationship with the respected *Pacific Educational Group* (PEG) which provides racial sensitivity training--the same group that Mr. Gerhart publicly defamed on his Facebook. Similarly, he defamed the Mayor of Minneapolis for its investment in the Bottineau light rail [line which connects many District 279 families and residents to the Metro](#) area, which many of color wouldn't otherwise have. In 2014, the year that Mr. Gerhart was elected to the school board, [hundreds of immigrant parents](#) reported their concerns to the district, which included: "Blowing black student school issues out of proportion" and it's disproportionate racial representation of white staff and school board members.

Chairman Gerhart's unwillingness to listen to his constituents is abundantly clear -- indeed, he all but rubs it in the community's and staff's faces. With so many chronic issues in the district, his behavior is nothing short of malpractice. This idea of arming volunteers or teachers with guns should signal the end of his relationship with these 20,000 students and their hardworking staff.

The Minnesota School Boards Association [Standards of School Board Leadership](#) calls for the following:

Conduct and Ethics The school board, as a whole, must provide leadership to the community on behalf of the school district by conducting its business in a fair, respectful, legal, and responsible manner, and, must, among other things:

- Take **full responsibility** for its activity and behavior at **and away from the school board** table.
- Set an example of respectful and civil leadership.

Advocacy and Communication The school board must advance its vision at all levels:

- Focus on community-wide concerns and values that best **support equity** and student achievement rather than being influenced by special interests

- Develop communication strategies to **build trust** between the school board and the superintendent, staff, students, and community.

[Osseo School District ISD 279](#)'s own racial equity policy calls for:

- **Culturally Responsive Leading** [...] geared towards the understanding and appreciation of race, culture, economic status, language, ethnicity, ability and other differences that contribute to the uniqueness of each student and staff member.
- **Family and Community Engagement and Empowerment** Each school and program will seek community input and create a welcoming culture and inclusive environment that reflects and supports the racial and cultural diversity of the school's student populations, their families, and communities.

Given all of this, we are looking to his fellow school board members to immediately call a Special Meeting to:

- Remove Robert Gerhart from the ISD 279 school board, permanently.
- Begin the search for his replacement -- preferably a person of color.
- Kill any further discussions on arming volunteers, teachers or staff in the district with guns or other weapons.

Please reply promptly. We look forward to hearing from you.

Andrea Morisette Grazzini



[Me to We Racial Healing](#)

Enclosure: Images, Pages 3 - 7.

Intro

#BLM : Bob Lives Matter

Manages Robert Gerhart - Chairman, Osseo Area School Board

https://www.facebook.com/robert.gerhart

Robert Gerhart

Home

Timeline About Friends Photos More

DO YOU KNOW ROBERT?

If you know Robert, send him a message.

Robert Gerhart updated his profile picture. 17 hrs ·

"Can you FEEL it? A strange ship approaches..."

Photos

JEFF

CHARLIE

DO NOT SURV

BOB THE GOON

MR. D.A. ... WOULDN'T IT BE WORTH IT?

1.

Robert Gerhart November 30, 2017 ·

Liberalism is off the rails. Who the hell would brag about building an entire city's economic future around a stupid idea like this? Who the hell would be dumb enough to support the Botteneau line knowing how useless, dangerous, and economically unviable the existing lines already are?



2.

Robert Gerhart commented on an article. November 16, 2017 ·

Thinly veiled threats, oppression of opinion, inflammation of hatred. That's what you get when you let Pacific Educational Group and other such radical social engineering groups into your schools. Thanks PEG.

Veterans Day Protest at Edina High School Sparks Police Investigation - Alpha News

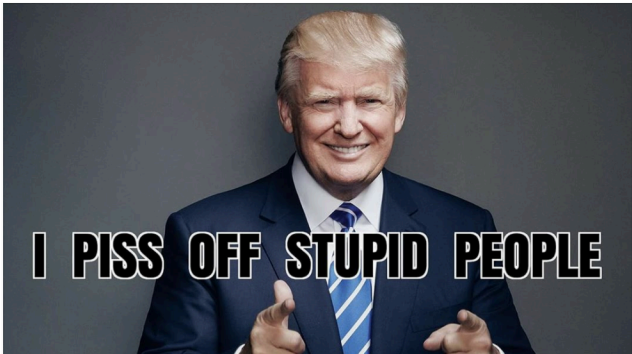
EDINA, Minn. – The Edina Police Department is investigating an "inflammatory and creepy" video...

ALPHANEWSMN.COM

Like Share

3.

Robert Gerhart updated his cover photo. December 7, 2017 ·

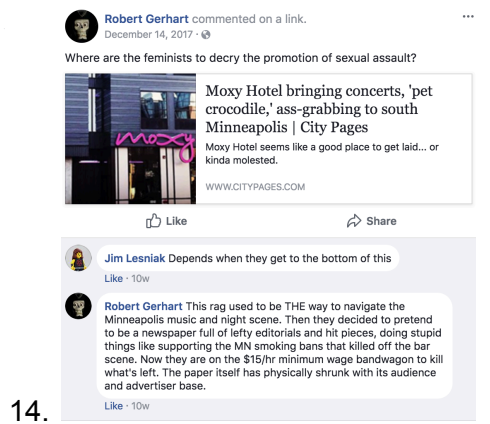
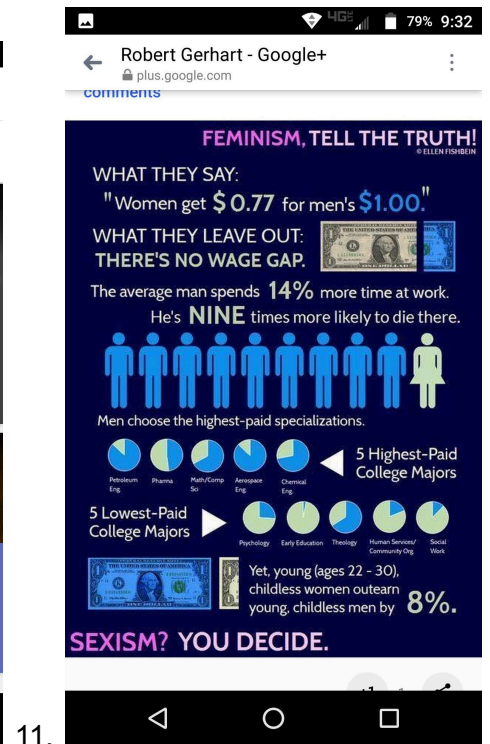
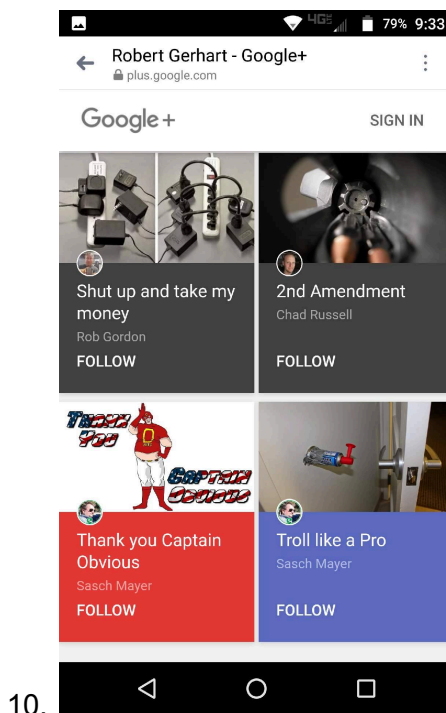
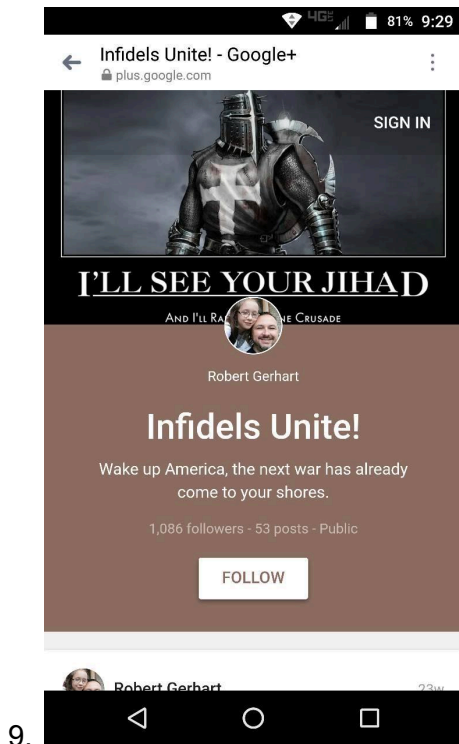
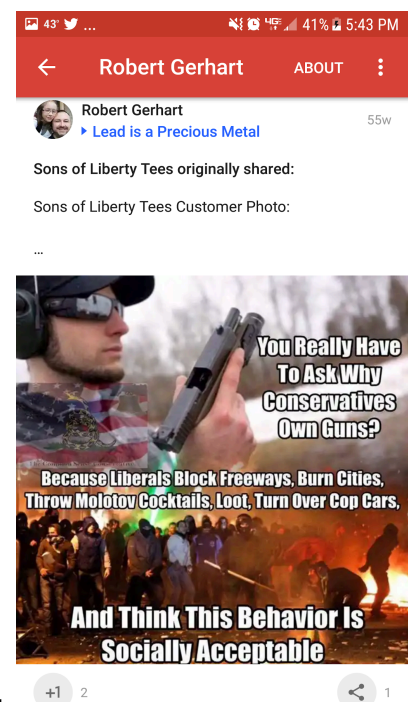
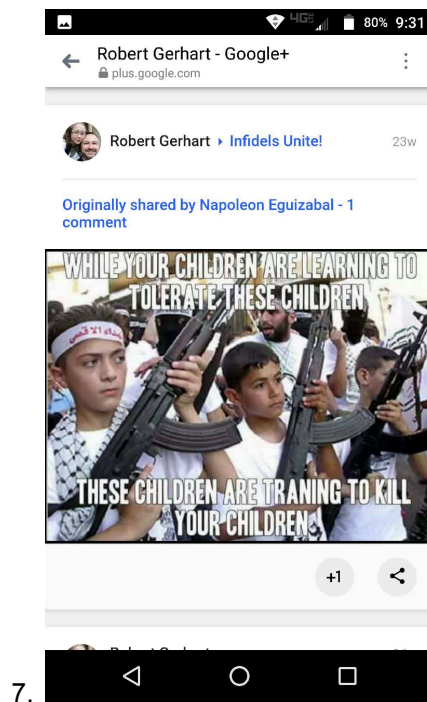
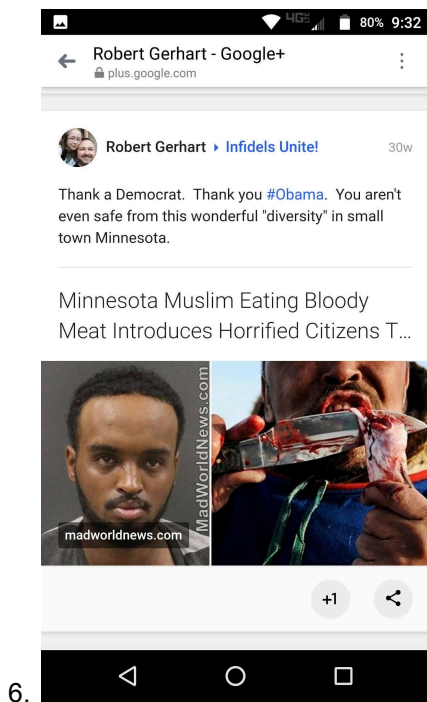


4.

Robert Gerhart updated his profile picture. February 13, 2017 ·



5.



Robert Gerhart updated his cover photo.
December 22, 2017 · 0



15.

Remember this?

HE WON GET OVER IT

We did. Twice. No riots or tantrums.
It sucked, but we just went on with our lives for 8 years.

Donald Trump is your 45th President.

Don't like it? Well...

HE WON GET OVER IT!

Robert Gerhart
November 16, 2016 · 0

People You May Know
Sister Capatella (16)
7 mutual friends
Add Friend

16.

Robert Gerhart updated his profile picture.
January 26, 2017 · 0



17.

Robert Gerhart updated his profile picture.
February 7, 2017 · 0

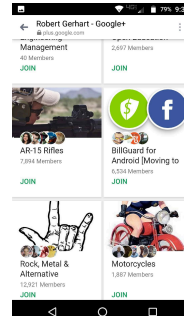


18.

Robert Gerhart updated his profile picture.
October 28, 2017 · 0



19.



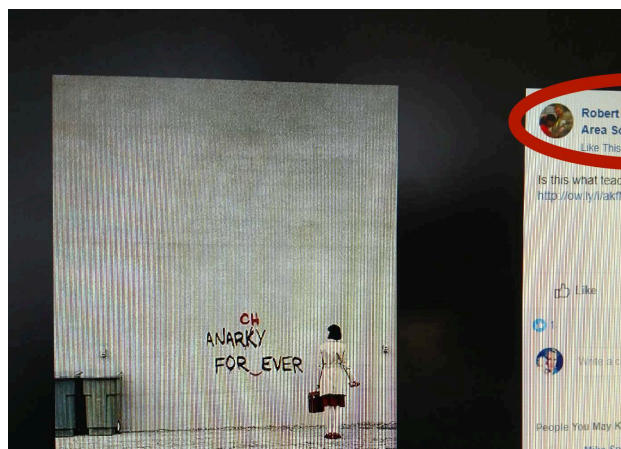
20.



21.



22.



23.



