

D303 Move Forward

Kids Learn Best In-Person

January 15, 2021

Dear President Manheim, Dr. Pearson, Mr. Eisenhammer, Ms. Grant, and Ms. Dal Santo,

This letter is a response to the unfounded accusations made by D303 School Board Member Ms. Waibel that “citizen harassment” was the reason for Mr. Bryant’s resignation from the board on Monday 1/11/21 and reported in the local newspaper (Kane County Chronicle, Daily Herald, and Patch). Ms. Waibel further stated that other resignations will follow if the public does not “dial down the hate”. Her comments are being interpreted by many in the public as the reason for Mr. Bryant’s resignation and a threat to silence the public in the future. Vice President Waibel’s comments have led the public to believe something that has not been proven. The public cannot defend itself against these accusations.

The reason for Mr. Bryant’s resignation was given at the board table by Board President Mr. Manheim. The reason was also stated in Mr. Bryant’s resignation letter as personal reasons. The one voice of the board comes from board President Manheim according to Policy 8:10 Connection with the Community. The news articles highlighted Ms. Waibel’s comments as fact and potentially the true reason for his resignation. No evidence has been presented that “citizen harassment” in board member homes has occurred.

Journalistic standards were violated when one individual’s allegations were presented as facts to the public. Ms. Waibel’s statements were repeated by the press and the public believes them to be the one voice of the board and fact. The word “harassment” is a legal term. If Ms. Waibel publicly states that she or any other member of the board has been harassed, she has a legal burden of proof to meet. This did not happen.

D303 Move Forward requests that President Manheim, as the one voice of the board, address Ms. Waibel’s statements regarding “citizen harassment” and clarify the board’s position regarding Mr. Bryant’s resignation to the public at a meeting and in the press.

Sincerely,

D303 Move Forward

CC:

Eric Schelkopf (Kane County Chronicle)

Aimee Barrows (KCC News Editor)

Kevin Schmit (Daily Herald)

Jason Addy (St. Charles Patch)

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