

Notice to School Administrators and Teachers Concerning Ideological Speech Codes

Dear School Administrators and Teachers,

As the parent/guardian of a student attending one of Virginia’s public schools, I am providing you with this letter to respectfully remind you that my child has fundamental, constitutionally-protected rights both to free speech and to the free exercise of religion. (U.S. Const., First Amend.; Va. Const., Art. 1, Sections 11, 12, and 16) Additionally, as my child’s parent/guardian, I have a fundamental right and duty to direct the upbringing, education, and care of my child, which is affirmed by Virginia’s parental rights statute. (Va. Code § 1-240.1)

Our family’s faith and/or conscience convictions dictate that we treat all people with love and respect in accordance with Scripture and God’s clear design, including: 1) His design of male and female as innate, immutable, distinct, and sacred; and 2) His creation of every person, with equal intrinsic worth, as part of just one race – the human race. (“And He made from one man every nation of men, to dwell upon all the face of the earth...” Acts 17:26) Therefore, we cannot speak messages, or take any actions, that are inconsistent with this core conviction. We also recognize that our position is not only a matter of deep personal faith, but that it also reflects the true nature of human beings – one that is objectively and empirically verifiable as a matter of biological fact.

Consequently, please be advised that I do not permit any person associated with the public school system to require or to otherwise pressure my child (and neither do I permit my child as their parent/guardian) to speak or affirm any message that: 1) is not true, 2) violates our/their deeply-held religious convictions, or 3) violates their conscience for whatever reason. This includes messages about human sexuality or race that contradict our family’s core religious convictions as articulated above, whether expressed through pronouns, titles, or other words, as well as non-verbal forms of speech, such as symbolic displays or communicative acts or omissions.

Thank you in advance for respecting our family’s fundamental rights.

Parent Name(s) _____

Student Name(s), Grade(s), and School(s) _____

Signature(s) _____

Date _____