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**PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

PDC STAFF,

PETITIONER,

v.

GLENN DOBBS,

RESPONDENT.

Case No. 166612

RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATIVE
CHARGES

COMES NOW RESPONDENT GLENN DOBBS, by and through their counsel of record Conner Edwards, and respectfully submits this RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES.

I. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The facts of this case are not in dispute. Respondent Dobbs lives in Chelan, WA and is well-known for his local activism and criticism of how the Wenatchee School District is operated.

On or about January 28, 2025, Respondent Glenn Dobbs designed and mailed a four-page publication titled “The Wenatchee Record” to households in the Wenatchee School District (hereafter “District”). Respondent Dobbs paid for the publication entirely by himself. The publication contained a number of segments which were generally critical of how the District was being operated, including:

- a) A segment noting that local student grade averages were far below grade level targets according to the OSPI Report Card (pgs 1, 4);
- b) A segment noting that the District’s levy proposal was actually a new and higher tax, contrary to the taxpayer-funded mailers that had been sent out by the District claiming that the upcoming levy was a “no-new tax” measure (pg. 1);

RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES- 2

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- 1
- 2 c) A segment discussing Initiative 2081 (passed by the Legislature in 2024) and
- 3 criticizing subsequent weakening of the protections contained in the original initiative
- 4 (pgs. 1, 4);
- 5 d) A segment criticizing the District's academic performance and attributing the
- 6 District's poor academic performance to a misallocation of resources towards DEI and
- 7 similar efforts (pg. 2);
- 8 e) A segment which published a speech made at a Wenatchee event by Ahnaleigh
- 9 Wilson, a local 14-year-old freshman who was defeated by a biologically male athlete
- 10 at a regional cross-county competition (pg. 2);
- 11 f) A segment noting the District's embrace of DEI efforts and praising the federal
- 12 government for its effort to oppose DEI efforts (pg. 2);
- 13 g) A segment discussing a PDC complaint that had been filed against District
- 14 Superintendent Kory Kalahar for using government resources to promote passage of
- 15 the District's levy, the article also criticized the PDC for taking no action on the
- 16 complaint for over a 6-month period (pg. 3);
- 17 h) A segment criticizing the agency responsible for managing libraries in the North
- 18 Central Washington area for taking down displays of the American flag (pg. 4); and
- 19 i) A segment containing a review of a book which teaches parents how to protect their
- 20 children from ideological influence without the need to homeschool (pg. 4).

21 Following the distribution of these mailers, a complaint was filed against Respondent

22 Dobbs, alleging that the mailers lacked sponsor ID. PDC staff added an additional allegation

23 against Respondent Dobbs alleging a failure to file an independent expenditure report.

24 Respondent Dobbs responded to the complaints by asserting that the mailer did not meet

25 the legal standard for political advertising, and that the mailer was thus outside of the PDC's

26 regulatory purview.

RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES- 3

1 Over 11 months after the complaint was filed, PDC staff informed Respondent Dobbs
2 that they would not dismiss the case administratively and that they would schedule a hearing if
3 Respondent Dobbs refused to pay a \$300 penalty. Respondent Dobbs declined to do so.

4 **II. APPLICABLE LAW**

5 RCW 42.17A.255 requires that sponsors of political advertising file an
6 Independent Expenditure (C-6) report with the PDC within
7 five days after the date of making an independent expenditure supporting or opposing a ballot
8 proposition.
9

10 RCW 42.17A.320 requires sponsors of political advertising to include the name and
11 address of the sponsor on political advertisements. RCW 42.17A.005(40) defines political
12 advertising to include *“any advertising displays, newspaper ads, billboards, signs, brochures,*
13 *articles, tabloids, flyers, letters, radio or television presentations, digital communication, or*
14 *other means of mass communication, used for the purpose of appealing, directly or indirectly,*
15 *for votes or for financial or other support or opposition in any election campaign.”*
16

17 Additionally, the PDC’s enforcement procedures must follow the requirements set
18 forth in the Administrative Procedures Act (APA).¹ The APA states that agencies empowered
19 to use enforcement discretion are encourage to *“to formalize the general principles that may*
20 *evolve from these decisions by adopting the principles as rules that the agency will follow*
21 *until they are amended or repealed”*. To this end, the PDC has adopted a rule which describes
22 the factors to be considered by staff in exercising prosecutorial discretion.² Factors supporting
23

24
25 ¹ RCW 29B.60.020(1)(b)

26 ² WAC 390-37-061

1 the dismissal of an enforcement matter by staff include, but are not limited to, a) the impact to
2 the public by the violation, b) the sophistication of the respondent, and c) the intentionality of
3 the violation.³ The aggravating and mitigating factors for determining the appropriate size of
4 any penalty imposed at hearings mirror these same factors.⁴ The Commission has authority to
5 waive a penalty for a first violation.⁵

6
7 Courts may grant relief from a penalty imposed by an agency if the order is “arbitrary
8 and capricious”.⁶ Courts have defined “arbitrary and capricious” action to include an action
9 which “is willful and unreasoning and taken without regard to the attending facts or
10 circumstances.”⁷

11 III. ARGUMENT

12 **A. The four-page publication distributed by Respondent Dobbs does not constitute** 13 **political advertising merely because of its brief mention of the District’s levy.**

14 To fall under the agency’s regulatory purview for the violations charged by PDC staff,
15 the publication at issue must constitute political advertising. The FCPA defines political
16 advertising as including “*any advertising displays, newspaper ads, billboards, signs, brochures,*
17 *articles, tabloids, flyers, letters, radio or television presentations, digital communication, or*
18 *other means of mass communication, used for the purpose of appealing, directly or indirectly,*
19

22 ³ WAC 390-37-061(4)

23 ⁴ WAC 390-37-185(2)

24 ⁵ RCW 29B.60.020(3)(c)

25 ⁶ RCW 34.05.570(3)(i)

26 ⁷ *Wash. Indep. Tel. Ass’n v. Wash. Utils. Transp. Comm’n*, 149 Wash.2d 17, 26, 65 P.3d 319 (2003) (quoting multiple cases)

1 *for votes or for financial or other support or opposition in any election campaign.”⁸*

2 [emphasis added]

3 The vast majority of the 4-page publication distributed by Respondent Dobbs does not
4 mention the District’s levy, but instead contains general criticisms of the District. In the one
5 segment that does discuss the District’s levy, the publication does not even urge a particular
6 vote on the measure. Instead, the segment merely notes that the District’s description of the
7 upcoming levy as being a “No New Tax” levy was not technically accurate: the old levy was
8 expiring and so voters would have seen a reduction in their property tax bill if the new levy was
9 not approved.
10

11 As mentioned above, the overarching purpose of the publication distributed by
12 Respondent Dobbs was not to advocate for or against the levy, but instead to criticize the
13 District’s operations generally as part of his longstanding activism efforts.
14

15 Because the purpose of the publication distributed by Respondent Dobbs was not to
16 advocate for or against a ballot measure, but instead to criticize the District generally, the
17 publication is not a political advertisement. As such, the Respondent Dobbs was not required
18 to include sponsor ID in the publication, nor was he required to file a C-6 report after sending
19 it out.
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25 ⁸ RCW 42.17A.005(40)

1 **B. PDC staff have routinely held that analogous publications favoring levy ballot**
2 **measures are not political advertisements, demonstrating an agency bias that**
3 **could be considered “arbitrary and capricious” under the APA’s standard.**

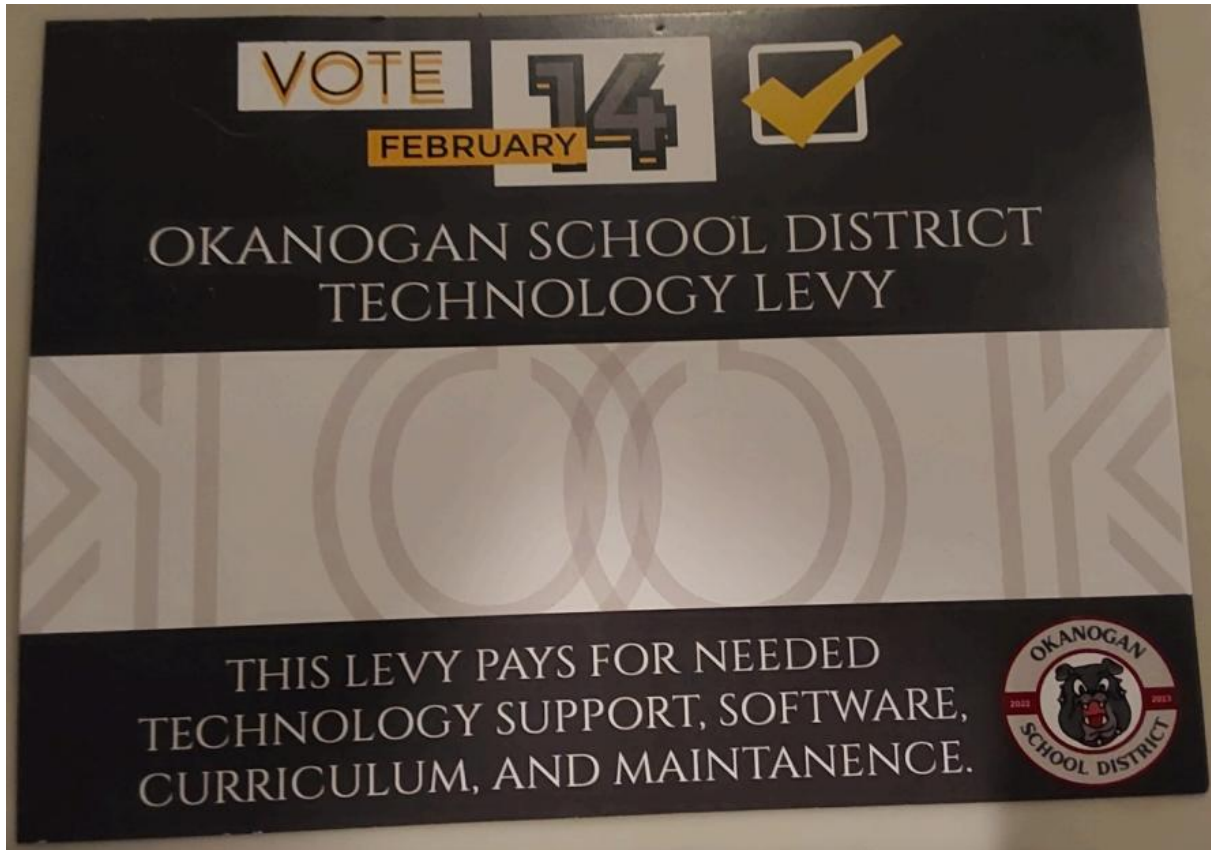
4 The determination made by PDC staff that Respondent Dobbs’ mailer constituted
5 political advertisement should not be viewed in a vacuum. For background, RCW 29B.45.010
6 prohibits government employees from using taxpayer money “for the purpose of assisting a
7 campaign for election of any person to any office **or for the promotion of or opposition to**
8 **any ballot proposition.**” [emphasis added]

9 Despite this clearly worded prohibition, the PDC staff routinely dismiss complaints
10 which include evidence of public entities using taxpayer money to fund mailers which contain
11 only favorable information regarding tax measures right before the elections are held, holding
12 that such mailers are in fact not political advertising.

13 The agency’s divergent behavior on substantially the same issue demonstrates a clear
14 agency bias against those who sponsor messages critical of tax increases and for those who
15 sponsor messages which speak favorably of tax increases. Evidence of this bias could support
16 a court’s finding that the agency’s decision to impose a penalty in this case constitutes an
17 “arbitrary and capricious” action, making Respondent Dobbs eligible for judicial relief. Below
18 we will include only a few examples of staff’s conduct.
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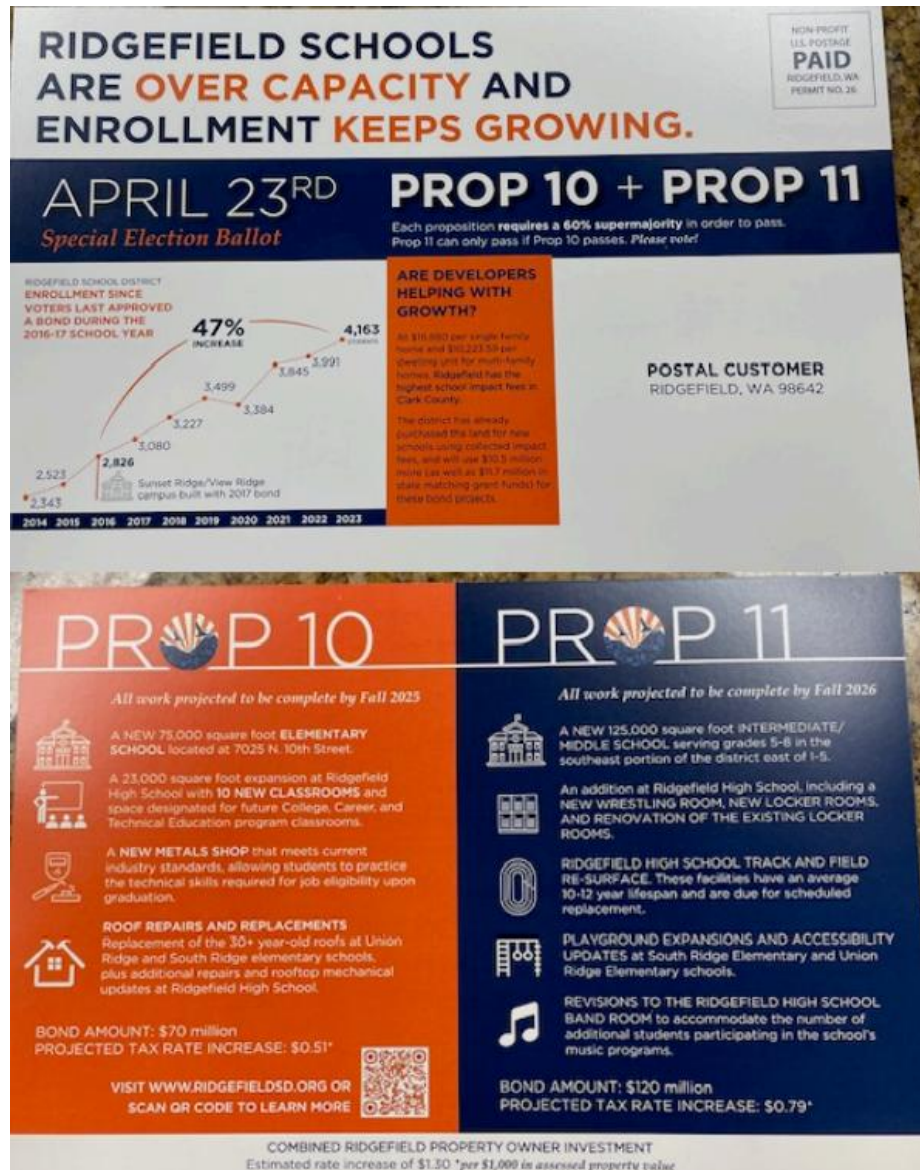
PDC Case No. 120832 – Okanogan School District

In this case, the Okanogan School District sent out a mailer which spoke favorably of the Okanogan School District levy just prior to the election. PDC staff concluded that the mailer did not constitute electioneering and dismissed the complaint.



PDC Case No. 153198 – Ridgefield School District

In this case, the Ridgefield School District sent out a mailer which spoke favorably of the Ridgefield School District levy just prior to the election. PDC staff concluded that the mailer did not constitute electioneering and dismissed the complaint.



RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES- 9

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PDC Case No. 152074 – Quilcene School District

In this case, the Quilcene School District sent out the below taxpayer-funded mailer, which spoke favorably of the Quilcene School District levy just prior to the election. PDC staff concluded that the mailer did not constitute electioneering and dismissed the complaint.

PO Box 40, Quilcene, WA 98376
294715 US Highway 101
www.qsd48.org
Find us on Facebook

QUILCENE COMMUNITY MEMBER

REPLACEMENT LEVY
Educational, Programs, & Operations 2025 - 2028

WE GROW & THRIVE
with local support

Quilcene School District would like to say **THANK YOU** to our community for supporting our Educational Programs & Operations Levy four years ago. Now it's time to vote again to renew our commitment to our school, our students, and their education.

The levy on April's ballot replaces the current levy set to expire at the end of 2024. It will enable us to continue towards meeting our school district mission of challenging each student to build on their natural abilities and develop the skills necessary to become life-long learners, productive and responsible citizens.

RESPONSIBILITY & TRUST
EXTENDED FOUR YEARS
AGO.

The expiring EP&O levy has provided funding for many of these programs for the past 30 years.

- ☒ Music Programs
- ☒ Art Programs
- ☒ Preschool Program
- ☒ Garden Program
- ☒ Extracurricular - including Sports
- ☒ Technology Support
- ☒ Career Tech Ed (Voc.) Program Support
- ☒ Food Service Program Support
- ☒ Transportation Program Support
- ☒ Unfunded Custodial & Maintenance
- ☒ Curriculum Support

The items below represent how Educational Programs & Operations levy dollars were spent in the 2022-23 budget.

Category	Percentage
Educational Programs & School Support	41.5%
Extra Curricular including Sports	28.9%
Food Service	11.9%
Technology Support	8.1%
Custodial & Maintenance	5.2%
Transportation	4.4%

Important Dates

- Ballots Mailed - April 3, 2024
- Ballots Due - April 23, 2024

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PDC Case No. 185630 – Issaquah School District

In this case, the Issaquah School District purchased and distributed the below yard signs speaking favorably of the Issaquah School District levy just prior to the election. PDC staff concluded that the yard signs did not constitute electioneering and dismissed the complaint.



1 As described above, the agency's divergent behavior on substantially the same issue
2 (whether a publication/communication constitutes electioneering) demonstrates a clear agency
3 bias against those who sponsor messages critical of tax increases and for those who sponsor
4 messages which speak favorably of tax increases. Evidence of this bias could support a court's
5 finding that the agency's decision to impose a penalty in this case constitutes an "arbitrary and
6 capricious" action, making Respondent Dobbs eligible for judicial relief.
7

8 **C. Staff's decision to bring charges against Respondent Dobbs was not justifiable**
9 **under the agency's prosecutorial discretion factors.**

10 Assuming, *arguendo*, that the Commission finds that Respondent Dobbs did violate
11 the letter of the law as it relates to the sponsor ID and C-6 report filing requirements, the vast
12 majority of the prosecutorial discretion factors described in WAC 390-37-061(4) favor an
13 alternative response to noncompliance, such as the dismissal of this case with a formal written
14 warning letter. We will briefly summarize the relevant factors below.

15 **Noncompliance was the result of a good-faith error, omission, or**
16 **misunderstanding.** When Respondent Dobbs sent out the 4-page mailer, he believed that
17 because the publication did not advocate for or against the levy, that it did not fall under the
18 FCPA's regulatory framework.
19

20 **The impact of the noncompliance on the public was minimal.** There is no
21 indication of a significant impact on the public due to the lack of sponsor ID and the failure to
22 file a C-6 form. The District's levy passed with 61% approval.⁹ Respondent Dobbs paid for
23

24
25

⁹https://www.wenatcheeworld.com/news/elections/wenatchee-school-district-levy-passes-with-60-approval/article_dc70b88e-e8c3-11ef-9a5a-8f565599bd5b.html
26

1 the mailer with his own personal funds, and he was identified prominently as the publication's
2 editor on page 2 of the mailer.

3 **The respondent's organization or campaign was relatively unsophisticated or**
4 **small.** Respondent Dobbs worked alone to prepare and pay for the mailer.

5 **The total expenditures by the respondent in the campaign or statement period**
6 **were relatively modest.** The mailer was sent out at a modest cost of only \$5,098.

7 **There is no evidence that any person, including an entity or organization,**
8 **benefited politically or economically from the noncompliance.** Respondent Dobbs did not
9 benefit in any way from the purported violations at issue here, other than the small amount of
10 time he saved by not including a sponsor ID in the layout or filing form C-6.

11 **The noncompliance resulted from uncertainty concerning the valid application of**
12 **the commission's requirements.** As has previously discussed above, Respondent Dobbs had
13 an objectively reasonable belief that his mailer – which did not advocate for or against the
14 levy – was not subject to FCPA requirements.

15 **The alleged violation presents a new question or issue for the commission's**
16 **interpretation.** Again, as previously discussed above, this case rides the edge of what
17 actually constitutes political advertisement subject to regulation under the FCPA. While we
18 understand that the Commission may ultimately disagree with our position, we would hope
19 that the Commission recognizes that this is far from a clear-cut violation.

20 Dismissal is especially appropriate in this case considering other instances in which
21 the agency has exercised prosecutorial discretion. Take for instance PDC Case #159779, the
22 case against SEIU 775 Quality Care Committee. In this case, a highly sophisticated and well-

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RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES- 13

1 resourced political committee failed to timely disclose over \$500,000 worth of election related
2 expenditures. The disclosure was required to have been made **before** the 2024 primary
3 election, and it was not disclosed until **after** the 2024 primary election. The case was
4 dismissed administratively by staff with no penalties.

5 **D. The imposition of the FCPA's disclosure requirements are unconstitutional as**
6 **applied to the specific facts of this case, no substantial governmental interests are**
7 **advanced by regulating the mailer at issue given the de minimis discussion of the**
8 **levy measure contained therein.**

9 Assuming, *arguendo*, that Respondent Dobbs did violate the letter of the law as it relates
10 to the sponsor ID and C-6 report filing requirements, these requirements are unconstitutional as
11 applied to the specific facts at issue in this case.

12 In the seminal case *Buckley v. Valeo*, the Supreme Court held that the government's
13 imposition of disclosure requirements on campaign activities "*can seriously infringe on privacy*
14 *of association and belief guaranteed by the First Amendment.*"¹⁰ For that reason, the Court held
15 that that "significant encroachments on First Amendment rights of the sort that compelled
16 disclosure imposes cannot be justified by a mere showing of some legitimate governmental
17 interest..." but instead there must be "relevant correlation" or "substantial relation" between
18 the governmental interest and the information required to be disclosed.¹¹ The Court gave three
19 primary justifications for these disclosure requirements. The only potential governmental
20 interest at issue here is providing the electorate with "*information as to where political*
21 *campaign money comes from*".¹²

22
23
24 ¹⁰ *Buckley v. Valeo*, 46 L.Ed.2d 659, 96 S.Ct. 612, 424 U.S. 1 (1976)

25 ¹¹ *Id.*

26 ¹² *Id.*

1 As it relates to the specific facts at issue in this case, the government's interest cannot
2 seriously be implicated by the extremely fleeting, *de minimis* reference made by Respondent
3 Dobbs in his 4-page mailer to the District's levy ballot measure. The segment simply points
4 out that the District's claims that the new levy was not a new tax is not technically accurate: the
5 old levy was expiring and so voters would have seen a reduction in their property tax bill if the
6 new levy was not approved. It does not contain advocacy for or against the measure. No
7 governmental interest would be materially advanced by subjecting such commentary to the
8 FCPA's disclosure requirements under the unique facts of this case.
9

10 IV. CONCLUSION

11 For the foregoing reasons, we respectfully request that the Commission dismiss the
12 charges brought against Respondent Dobbs. In the alternative, we request that Commission find
13 a violation but impose a penalty of \$0. The imposition of such a small penalty is warranted by
14 the penalty factors described in WAC 390-37-185; because these factors mirror the factors
15 described WAC 390-37-061 (which have already been analyzed above) we will not regurgitate
16 them here.
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22 . DATED this May 12, 2026

23 CG EDWARDS PLLC

24 
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RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES- 15

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RESPONSE TO ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES- 16

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THE DEATH OF DEI

US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION KILLS DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION.

PAGE 2

NCW LIBRARIES REMOVES AMERICAN FLAGS

Communities are concerned over the policy of substituting gay pride flag for the American Flag.

PAGE 4



SUPERINTENDENT KALAHAR CHARGED IN PDC COMPLAINT

WSD ASKS TO CENSURE NEGATIVE DISTRICT NEWS.

PAGE 3



THE STATE OSPI REPORT CARD SAYS WSD FAILURES PERSIST



OUR GRADUATES ARE UNPREPARED FOR THE FUTURE

According to the annual Report Card published by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), Wenatchee schools' academic performance continues trending downward while per pupil costs continue trending upward.

The OSPI Report Card shows, across the Wenatchee School District (WSD) 59.2% of students now perform below their grade level in English Language Arts, discouragingly worse than the 57.9% achieved during the 2022-2023 school year.

The report for 2022-2023 school year showed 62.7% of students performing below their grade level in Science. Scores fell even more in 2023-2024, showing 68.4% of students below their grade level in Science.

Math performance scores have held their own. For the 2023-2024 school year, performance scores remained unchanged with 72%

of students showing Math proficiency well below their grade level.

High School

Academic performance drops off even more dramatically when students leave middle school and enter the four years at Wenatchee High School. For the 2023-2024 school year, 84.4% of WHS students are performing below grade level in Math; 82.5% are performing below grade level in Science; and, 59% are performing below grade level in English language skills.

Even more discouraging, OSPI reports that only 15.6% of WHS students are actually on track or prepared to take college Math courses without first taking basic Math to bring them up to the level of their student peers. Only 17.5% are on track to take Science classes at the college level and only 41% are ready for college level English. By OSPI standards, WHS students are being graduated seriously unprepared for college.

Graduating Unprepared for the Future

WSD administration claims its core objective is to prepare the district's students for the future. In spite of Wenatchee High School academic performance being one of the worst in the state, 93% of students who were enrolled for the four years of high school were graduated in 2024. It appears Third World pass-through policies now infect Washington schools.

Nationally, U.S. News and World Report ranks Washington 40th in college readiness, behind Tennessee (14th), Texas (34th), Kentucky (27th), Arkansas (35th), and Montana (25th). Washington's public education system now ranks in the bottom fifth of freshman students graduating in 4 years of high school.

Attendance Plummets

One explanation for the district's poor academic performance is the low rate of attendance. The OSPI Report

Continues on Page 4

THE 2025 LEVY IS A NEW AND HIGHER TAX

Superintendent Kory Kalahar's Administration is describing the upcoming school levy as a "No New Tax" levy; in actuality the district is asking the community to vote on a brand new school tax and a higher tax at that.

The current school tax levy, passed in 2021, expires on December 31, 2025. Without a new levy, property owners will see a significant drop in their property tax. According to the WSD calculation, the property tax on a home valued at \$400,000 is estimated to drop by \$880 per year. The property tax on a \$600,000 home will drop by \$1,320. The only way that drop in property tax can be avoided is to pass the proposed levy and accept a brand new, and higher, property tax regime which will become effective January, 2026, and last for another four years.

To suggest the upcoming levy is not a new tax is a falsehood; at best an attempt to sugar coat a bitter new tax pill.

WSD Pays \$218,500 to "Sell" the Tax

The Record has discovered WSD Superintendent, Kory Kalahar, on January 25, 2024, signed a consulting contract with Spokane based Turner Townsend & Heery, LLC, to craft a Campaign Plan to sell Wenatchee School District voters on voting for the new school tax levy on February 11, 2025. The district is paying TT&H, \$218,500 taxpayer dollars, to craft a plan to convince taxpayers they should vote to impose another tax levy that will raise their property taxes.

Copies of the executed contract and the detailed campaign plan are available to the public by calling the District office at: 509-663-8186; or by stopping by the WSD office at: 235 Sunset Avenue, Wenatchee.

LEGISLATURE RADICALS SUBVERT INITIATIVE 2081

The Parents' Rights Initiative

Parents, fed up with their schools refusing to open school records to parents, organized and circulated Initiative 2081, titled "The Parents' Rights Initiative." In a rare display of solidarity, conservative affinity groups quickly and easily qualified The Parents Rights Initiative 2081, for the November 2024 general election ballot garnering 454,000 voters' signatures. The initiative would force schools to open student's records to parents, bring parents into the decision making process, allow parents to examine books and supplemental materials used in the classroom, and end educators' ongoing efforts to replace parents as caretakers of their children.

Even the Leftist dominated Washington legislature, usually confident in their ability to defeat initiatives from the people, would normally ignore initiatives and allow them to be placed on the ballot for the public to vote on. That, however, didn't happen.

Washington State law provides two avenues for initiatives from the people to become law. The Legislature can itself vote to pass the initiative into law or, it can do nothing, stand aside and the initiative will automatically appear on the general election ballot for a vote of the people in November.

Continues on Page 4

EDDM
US POSTAGE
PAID
WENATCHEE, WA
PERMIT #241

RESIDENTIAL COSTUMER

1250 N. Wenatchee Ave. Ste H252
Wenatchee, WA 98801

EDITORIAL



FROM BAD TO WORSE

SCHOOL DISTRICT IS LOSING GROUND. HOW FAR CAN IT GO?

Glenn Dobbs
Editor

The State’s Office of Public Instruction (OSPI) Report Card, shows the Wenatchee School District’s academic performance for the 2023-2024 school year was even worse than the previous year. The administration claims the bad performance is right in the middle of other poorly-performing schools with similar demographics so “we’re not doing that bad.”

A quick look at the WSD website hints at the problem. The entirety of the site is devoted to various elements of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion. The District’s Policy and Procedures Manual mirrors OSPI manual, right down to a myopic focus on gender dysphoria, transgender ideology. Policy 3211 and Procedure 3211-P, consists of five pages of instruction for normalizing transgender ideology, and protecting students from parents. There is no discussion of how to improve academic performance among students.

The Record acquired internal notes for a November 2023, school district DEI meeting which reads, “Promise: We promise to build a foundation of diversity, equity and inclusion from which each student emerges future-ready.” That is not a statement of an educator; it is the language of a Marxist change agent. Nowhere does it go to what can be done to reverse the humiliation of being responsible for a failing school system. They describe themselves as the District Cabinet Team.

In conversations with faculty members, it quickly becomes clear the district has some outstanding, well trained teachers but a large proportion of teachers in the district are disappointed and demoralized by what they are required to do to their students. The common theme is, they are required to pay more attention to DEI issues related to the social, emotional development of the kids than on teaching the subjects for which they as teachers were educated and trained.

Declining enrollment in WSD is another indicator of community dissatisfaction with government run schools. From the district’s own web site it is difficult to determine what

enrollment actually is; ranging from 6,800 students to 7,147 on the OSPI site. Enrollment in Wenatchee schools has dropped by almost 1,000 students over the last 8 years.

A new private Christian school opened in September, 2024, with 270 students. Wenatchee currently has well over 1,000 children being educated in private schools or are being home schooled. One former elementary teacher in the district who took her children out of WSD schools, said her reason for leaving is she, “Would never allow anyone to do to her children what they are doing in Wenatchee,” a telling statement coming from a former teacher in the district. Until the public school system can demonstrate a willingness and ability to produce a quality educational product, without sexualizing the community’s children, we can expect the continued growth of private schools and further declines in public school enrollment.

Professionals in any trade or profession must be able to analyze problems and, when required, make changes to improve the outcome. Surgeons, engineers and airline pilots are masters at analysis and adjustment. In the medical field its called the scientific method. In airline parlance its called analyzing the problem from the best information available, adjusting to conditions at hand, landing the airplane and figuring out what went wrong and make sure it doesn’t happen again. Both are outcome based and both produce measurable results.

The new administration in Washington DC having announced its intention to abolish DEI in all federal agencies, state and public school systems receiving federal funds, DEI and its component elements of Critical Race Theory, Social Emotional Learning and Transgender ideology, have a very short half-life. To put it into attorney parlance, that cake is being baked, right now. The question is, how many educators are going to resist the coming changes at the cost of their careers, and how many in the profession are capable of returning to actually educating our young?

THE DEATH OF DEI

THE WENATCHEE SCHOOL DISTRICT (WSD) HAS ESTABLISHED DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION (DEI), AS THE FOUNDATION OF A FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR EDUCATING THE DISTRICT’S STUDENTS

The Wenatchee School District (WSD) has established Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI), as the foundation of a five year plan for educating the district’s students. In spite of oftentimes strident criticism from the community, and consistently failing academic performance, the administration and the school board have doggedly embraced a culturally divisive ideology. Critics will be pleased to know their voices have been heard and all of that is about to change.

The US Department of Education (DOE) announced on January 23, the removal of all Diversity, Equity, Inclusion programs from the agency and its commitment to extending the prohibitions across the country. The announcement said the removal of DEI from agencies and school systems “is the first step in reorienting the agency toward prioritizing meaningful learning ahead of divisive ideology in our schools.”

Recognizing that physical traits, like skin color, is irrelevant to outcomes in business, the military or education, scores of major corporations and entire university systems have thrown out and closed their DEI offices. At least twenty-two states have passed laws abolishing DEI in state hiring, in public schools, and more than forty universities have closed their DEI offices. More than thirty branded companies have closed their DEI departments.

A former WSD administrator told The Record, “The district’s five year DEI plan isn’t really a plan at all. We still have some good, committed teachers in the district but the administration has no identifiable path for improving the educational product. With DOE canceling DEI across the country, that will leave the Wenatchee School District without even a pretend plan. They won’t know where to go or where they’ve been. It’s a mess.”

ANALEIGH WILSON
SPEECH AT
THE RILEY GAINES
EVENT IN WENATCHEE



Millions of voters across the nation find the Left’s woke promotion of biological men and boys competing in female sports irrational. Shortly after his inauguration as President, Donald J. Trump signed Executive Order 14166 titled, Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government.

His sensitivity on the issue can be largely credited to the crusade launched by the NCAA All-American collegiate swimmer, Riley Gaines, who launched a campaign two years ago to protest men in women’s sports. Speaking in September, 2024, at a Lincoln Day dinner in Wenatchee, Gaines met with local girl athletes, encouraging them to stand up and speak out.

On the stage in front of 600 attendees, a 14 year old middle schooler emotionally shared her heart wrenching story of competing locally against a fully developed male in cross-country competition. Here is the Ahnaleigh Wilson story.

“All my hard work didn’t matter”

Hi, my name is Ahnaleigh Wilson. I am 14 years old and a freshman at Eastmont. In May of this year, I ran in the Cashmere Junior Olympics. The Junior Olympics are a regional track meet for junior high athletes who placed first or second in a race during the regular track season, so it’s a big deal. It is basically the championships for our area. I raced against a transgender athlete in the 1600 meters. I had heard of this happening around our country, but never expected that I would encounter it firsthand.

When all of the runners lined up to race, I noticed that this athlete was built very differently than all of the other girls, but I didn’t think much about it because we were on the starting line ready to race. It wasn’t until we were on the podium that I heard the commotion of upset adults and kids. That is when I heard that the athlete standing next to me was a biological boy. My heart sank and I felt so discouraged. It felt like all my hard work throughout the year didn’t matter.

My family and I spoke up about how unfair this was. We didn’t speak up because I got second place and didn’t win, but we spoke up because boys racing against girls at this level of competition isn’t right or fair. All of those biological girls standing up there next to me had worked just as hard throughout the season as I did. But, at that moment, our hard work and talent didn’t matter.

A coach on the transgender athlete’s team had heard my group of friends frustrated and voicing their concerns about it not being fair that a biological boy was racing against girls. They told my group of friends that if they were going to complain they needed to go somewhere else. Hearing this was devastating to me and my friends because it felt like we were being told to shut up, stop complaining, and just deal with it. And this is why I’m speaking up. Our female athlete voices need to be heard because we are the ones this is personally affecting.

Going through this experience has been incredibly hard. Adults have attacked my family and me for speaking up for fairness and protection of biological females in sports. My family and I have been told by adults that we are trans-phobic, that I am a sore loser, and that I value winning more than a human life. We have also been told that we will be the ones responsible if this transgender athlete takes their life. And then I was told that I’m simply just not good enough and that’s why I placed second. But it feels like these same people who are attacking female athletes for speaking up do not care about the mental toll and struggles this is also taking on female athletes.

These words have affected me, and it has hurt tremendously to hear all of these things because my family and I are some of the kindest people who strive to love everyone. I have had severe anxiety and panic attacks, as I have been trying to prove to those who say I’m not good enough by training even harder. What hurts the most is that no matter how hard I train and push myself, the likelihood of beating a boy is slim.

I’ve learned so much going through this experience. My biggest takeaway is that allowing boys to compete in girls’ sports isn’t working and it isn’t fair. It isn’t fair and it isn’t working for biological girls, and it isn’t fair and isn’t working for transgender athletes. No matter where you stand, failing to protect women’s sports is wrong.

So much hate and conflict has come from this for both sides. The things I have heard about this transgender athlete and towards me from grown adults is awful and damaging. I’m only 14 and shouldn’t have to deal with these kinds of adult issues. But here I am because female athletes should also have a voice.

I am not speaking up to spread hate, but I am speaking up, hoping that adults will step up and do what is right to protect and keep women’s sports fair and safe for biological girls. I hope we can find a solution for all athletes to compete fairly and safely because at 14 years old, even I can see that the current rules aren’t working for biological girls or transgender athletes. Thank you.

Published intermittently, The Wenatchee Record, is committed to focusing the light of public attention on subjects related to the education, health, and welfare of the community.

Communication with its editors can be sent to:
THE WENATCHEE RECORD
editor@thewenatcheerecord.com

SUPERINTENDENT KALAHAR CHARGED IN PDC COMPLAINT

A formal complaint has been filed with the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission (PDC), charging Wenatchee School District Superintendent, Kory Kalahar, PhD, with violating Washington State law.



The complaint filed in June, 2024, accuses the Superintendent with illegally using school district resources in an effort to lobby parents, students, and student leadership to affect the outcome just days before the November 2023, general election.

The complaint, filed by Bill Sullivan, Chair of The Wenatchee Values Alliance, accuses Dr. Kalahar with using Wenatchee School District (WSD) resources in multiple attempts to discredit The Wenatchee Record’s coverage of WSD’s failing academic performance. The Record published information taken directly from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), highlighting the district’s poor academic performance. The complaint reads:

“Once The Record’s distribution came to the attention of the District, Superintendent Kalahar immediately launched a coordinated campaign to publicly counter The Record from November 3rd through Election Day on November 7. Rather than respond as a private citizen, or simply wait several days until after the election to respond, Mr. Kalahar elected to leverage District resources and staff by using its computers, website, online application, and mass communication contact lists to reach thousands of voters, including:

- Direct emails to approximately 900 District employees;
- Direct emails and Bloomz media application notifications to parents of over 7,400 enrolled students;
- Posting to the District’s website;
- Posting to the District’s Facebook page with 7,200 followers;
- Posting to the District’s Twitter/X account with 1,400 followers;
- Emails urging a student leader to publish a narrative in District publications in opposition to The Wenatchee Record, further asking the student leader to encourage students, and their parents to go out and vote, and further asking the student to organize a student “walk-out” in protest of the publication.
- Publishing an Op-Ed in Wenatchee World’s regional newspaper and website.

The complaint states that on November 3 and 6, Kalahar received emails from school board director and attorney Julie Norton, citing RCW 42.17A.555, warning that he should refrain from engaging in political matters as covered in The Record. Yet, in a flagrant effort to restrict community discussion around the revelations of poor academic performance, the Superintendent shut down, locked out, the public’s comments on the district’s Facebook page, tacitly admitting that further discussion of articles in The Record might cast the district in a negative light.

Superintendent asks The Wenatchee World to Censure Coverage

The complaint charges, further in spite of Norton’s warning, Kalahar’s office sent an email to The Wenatchee World reporter, Gabriel Garcia, “...soliciting favor from the newspaper, asking The World for “limited media exposure on any issues that could be considered controversial” and to “help us clarify and debunk claims made about us by running an Opinion Editorial by Superintendent Kalahar in the coming days”. The Kalahar OpEd was published on November 6, the day before the election.”

The Record has secured and reproduced below the Haglund email of November 5, to The Wenatchee World, sent just two days before the November 7, 2023 General Election. It is signed by Diana Haglund (pronouns she/

her/ella), Communications Director for the Wenatchee School District, and claims “irreparable harm has been done to our system and we respectfully ask for limited media exposure on any issues that could be considered controversial...” (There is no evidence The World granted Haglund’s request for censorship.)

From: Haglund, Diana <haglund.d@wenatcheeschools.org>
Subject: Reschedule
To: Gabriel Garcia
Sent: November 5, 2023 6:25 PM (UTC-05:00)

Gabriel,

We would like to reschedule our conversation about chronic absenteeism scheduled for Monday with you for another time.

As you know, the Wenatchee School District is under attack due to a recent political propaganda mailer printed by the Wenatchee World. While we understand and respect the paper's position, there has been irrefutable harm done to our system, and we respectfully ask for limited media exposure on any issues that could be considered controversial and further any false narratives.

At this time, our focus needs to be on taking care of our people --educators, employees, students, and families who are feeling hurt by these allegations. We also need to refute these claims and ensure we have clear responses for the public to address these issues.

We also ask that the Wenatchee World help us clarify and debunk claims made about us by running an Opinion Editorial by Superintendent Kory Kalahar in the coming days. I will be in touch with you when it's ready.

Thank you
Diana

Exhibit 8.
District Email to Wenatchee World

Diana Haglund (She/her/ella)
Communications Director
o: (509)663-8161 x33334 c: (509) 981-4691
haglund.d@wenatcheeschools.org
wenatcheeschools.org
235 Sunset Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801

Haglund requests censorship

Kalahar Suggests Student Leader Organize Walkout

In a separate email exchange with an unidentified student leader, the Superintendent suggested the student organize a walk-out of other students in protest to The Record’s exposure of the district’s poor academic performance.

Kalahar’s email, reproduced in its entirety in Appendix 12 of the complaint, states:

“...you could organize a group of informed students and write a student letter to the newspaper about your thoughts. I wonder if the Apple Leaf (the WHS student newspaper) could do a special edition on student response to the newsletter. You could have the Panther Pulse report on it and help get the word out. Perhaps meet with the WHS administration and help plan a walk out around the newsletter to share your voice. You have the strength in numbers and our students’ voices should be heard. Please let me know how I can help support you!” (Emphasis added)

The complaint concludes with:

“If Mr. Kalahar felt that his actions, in response to The Record’s claims, were appropriate, it is fair to ask why he chose to launch the District into an aggressive public campaign at the time when people were actively voting? And if he felt the articles were inaccurate or unfair, why did he not choose to take the opportunity to challenge them on their own merits after the election? This would have effectively resonated with voters, encouraged open and inclusive discussion, and maintained the public’s trust. Mr. Kalahar’s actions are not consistent with normal and regular conduct by the District and are contradictory to (the) District policies he personally circulated to faculty and staff prior to the election.”

PDC Stalls Investigation into Allegations

State law specifically forbids public agencies, institutions and schools using public resources including computers, social media, proprietary email lists, staff time and materials, to affect or attempt to influence the outcome of elections for candidates for elective office or for causes or issues. The PDC regularly hears cases of violations of campaign laws and has in the past assessed fines ranging from \$180 to several hundred dollars to school administrators who, in their official capacity, violate campaign laws. The obviously coordinated and repeated violations by the WSD Superintendent egregiously exceeds any violations The Record has been able to find in PDC files.

One month after receiving the formal complaint, in July, 2024 the Public Disclosure Commission announced it was opening an investigation into the allegations contained in the June Complaint.

While election law violations are regularly acted on within a few days or at most a couple of months, the PDC has been uncharacteristically slow, and silent on their investigation into the Wenatchee Values Alliance complaint, especially in light of what appears to be repeated efforts to influence thousands of people in the community.

PDC critics claim it is common practice for the agency to “cooperate” with other agencies to minimize public blowback. As we go to press, Wenatchee School District is soliciting public approval of a new school tax. Exposure now of the Superintendent’s violations would more than likely have a negative effect on that vote.

In light of the obvious PDC stalling Chelan County Prosecutor, Robert Sealby, in October contacted the State Attorney General’s office for a status report, requesting the state to hand off jurisdiction to the local prosecutor’s office. Then Attorney General, now Governor, Robert Ferguson’s office to date has simply ignored the County Prosecutor’s request.

The Record attempted to contact Peter Lavalley, Executive Director of the PDC, to ascertain why a case which would normally be resolved within a few weeks, remains silent and open after more than 6 months of investigation. Apparently following the Attorney General’s lead, Mr. Lavalley did not respond to The Record’s request for information nor our request for an interview.

Clearly, the Public Disclosure Commission and the State Attorney General’s office are dragging their feet, apparently postponing their investigation and refusing to provide progress reports or reasons for their delay.

The Wenatchee School District is presenting a levy request to the community in February and many in the community have yet to make up their mind. It is in the best interest of both the school district and the people of Chelan County to have a resolution to the allegations before voting for, or against, that levy.

Interested voters can read the entire Complaint, consisting of 6 pages of summary and 25 pages of supporting documentation, on the PDC website by referencing case number 156953.

THE STATE OSPI REPORT CARD SAYS WSD FAILURES PERSIST

Continues from Page 1

Card shows, during the 2023-2024 school year, less than half, 48.2%, of enrolled Wenatchee High School students, attended school regularly--90% or more of the time. WSD has the lowest high school attendance rate in the area, with Cashmere at 86.4%, Eastmont 59.9%. Clearly, if students aren't attending classes they can't be expected to produce passing scores in Math, Science or English, or be prepared for college and careers.

Change is Not Yet in the Wind

Wenatchee schools aren't deteriorating organically, inside out by themselves. Liberal Progressive control of the State's education system from the Washington State Board of Education, to the Office of the Superin-

tendent of Public Instruction, to individual school districts, is the result of educators embracing the Marxist ideology of using the schools to effect social change. State education abandoned time-proven teaching techniques, based on merit and academic accomplishment, to adopt trendy political ideologies based on students' physical characteristics and genital identity.

When parents express their concerns at school board meetings they are ignored by the board, thanked for their input and dismissed. When parents voice their concerns to the administration they are met with platitudes, "I admire you protecting your daughter but we aren't going to change our policy of

allowing boys in the girls locker room."

A former public school teacher now teaching in a private Christian school in Wenatchee reported that her enthusiasm for teaching has been renewed. She said the Wenatchee schools spend entirely too much time on political wokeness, it is difficult for students to concentrate and focus on academic studies. She told The Record, "It is so refreshing to teach classes where there are no cell phones, the text books aren't pushing woke political agenda, and kids actually listen and engage in intelligent discussion. There are almost no discipline problems. I taught some of these kids in public schools and they are entirely different people today."

NCW Removes the American Flag



STORMS CLOUDS ARE RISING

COMUNITIES ACROSS FIVE COUNTIES IN NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON ARE DISCOVERUNG THAT NCW LIBRARIES, THE AGENCY MANAGING COMMUNITIY LIBRARIES IN CHELAN, DOUGLAS, OKANOGAN, FERRY AND GRANT COUNTIES, HAS REMOVED THE AMERICAN FLAG FROM DISPLAY IN LOCAL LIBRARIES

In most of the libraries across the district, the American flag has been taken down and replaced with the colorfully striped Gay Pride flag.

Support for display of the American flag is a cause most Americans can rally around. Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the American Legion, churches, political parties, unions, Chambers of Commerce, Rotary, Kiwanis clubs, and a host of other organizations have never abided the denigrating of the American flag. Particularly, to be replaced by the flag of a militant minority of less than 1% of the population.

The Wenatchee Public Library is illustrative of what is found in most of the 30 libraries operated by NCW Libraries.

At the Wenatchee Library, a large colorfully striped flag is displayed in the front window of the bldg. A sign beneath the flag, euphemistically known as the Gay Pride flag, explains the proponents interpretation of the stripes.

A quick walk through other rooms in the library finds no American flag displayed except tucked backed in the corner of the Public Meeting room. In the children's wing there is no flag but there is an 8.5"x11" display of flyers telling kids to let the librarian know their personal pronoun. At the front desk is a brochure inviting visitors to attend a virtual program titled "We All Transition."

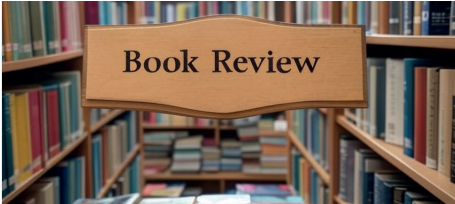
As token to the patriots of the community, by the front door there is a small 3"x5" plastic peel-off American flag decal above another plastic peel-off, the ubiquitous Gay Pride flag of the same size.

Visitors to the NCW Libraries regional headquarters at 16 North Columbia Street, are greeted by a large, multi-colored Gay Pride flag prominently displayed in the entry way. Attached to the entry door is a stick-on Gay Pride flag but not even a stick-on American flag is to be found. NCW Libraries headquarters apparently sets the tone for the libraries throughout the five county area.

Barbara Walters, Executive Director of NCW Libraries, said at the organization's last board meeting there isn't a flag policy and said it would take her months to draft one. The board has given her four months to come up with a written policy.

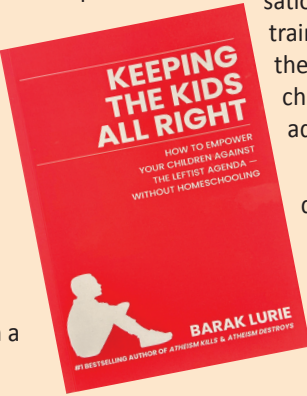
Symbolizing the historical fight for freedom, the building of the American nation, and its defense of freedom at home and abroad, the American flag is the most inclusive flag in the world. As a symbol of freedom and opportunity it is unrivaled among national flags. To remove it and replace it, with a contrived symbol of the personal sex preferences of a tiny but vocal political movement, is to denigrate the significance of the most meaningful symbol of freedom the world has ever seen.

Storm clouds are rising. It behooves librarians across the country to seriously weigh the consequences of replacing the American flag with any other flag. The outcome of this fight is inevitable.



"Keeping The Kids All Right: How to Empower Your Children Against the Leftist Agenda—Without Homeschooling"

By Barak Luri



change their sex. Luri makes it clear to his children that politicians, the media, and schools who teach such foolishness are promoting an agenda.

Innoculation

The author describes a four step process he has used with his own children to demonstrate the utter foolishness, and deceit behind many woke programs. Through the use of sample conversations, parents can inoculate children against sexuality training, the school's trans-track, racial agitation, and the biggest lie--that teachers love and care more for children than their parents do. In other words, some adults don't always tell the truth.

Luri says he discovered when at university, Leftist dogmas disintegrate in the face of facts, humor and especially ridicule. Lurie demonstrates how to use humor to reinforce your children's naturally logical conclusions and to use ridicule against woke teaching and silly, illogical arguments.

Keeping the Kids All Right, is must reading for parents, grandparents, serious teachers and even the odd administrator. Anyone truly concerned about public education and its devolution from academic instruction into indoctrination must read this very readable book. Talk about it with friends, and then inoculate your own children against the overt liberal woke programs of their public schooling.

"Keeping the Kids All Right", is an excellent, logical and straight forward starting place for protecting your children and is available on Amazon at \$9.99.

LEGISLATURE RADICALS SUBVERT INITIATIVE 2081

Continues from Page 1

Washingtonians were naively ecstatic when the 2024 session of the legislature, apparently bowing to the will of the people, overwhelmingly approved by a 70 vote margin in the House of Representatives, and a unanimous 40 to 0 vote in the Senate, to enshrine the Parent's Rights Initiative in State law without it having to be voted on in November. For once, the will of the people was affirmed by their elected representatives. But wait!

How Politics Works 101

Looking back, by late 2023 the radical Marxist element in the Democrat party were aware that a monumental backlash against four years of national and state voter abuse was building across the country. Recognizing the revulsion of voters against them, the best they could hope for was to try to minimize the damage. Of particular concern was the governor's contest between the most radical Attorney General the state has had in 100 years, Robert Ferguson, and a former Sheriff and member of Congress who offered a sharply contrasting ideology. What were the radical elements to do?

Political activists know that popular ballot initiatives invariably produce a larger Republican and Independent voter turnout than elections having no real issues of broad appeal. The appearance on the ballot of a highly popular Donald Trump virtually guaranteed a huge voter turnout and the last thing the Democrats needed was to have a manifestly popular initiative increasing that turnout even more. The initiative was perceived by the Left as being a toxic challenge to the LGBT grooming sex lobby and their primary sponsor, the state's public education establishment.

Aware of their political jeopardy in the upcoming elections, democrat strategists chose to bring the initiative before the 2024 legislature; by doing so they wouldn't have to present it to a vote of the people and, if passed by the legislature, it would be subject to the amendment process, which is precisely what has happened.

Crafted and sponsored by the democrats, Senate Bill SB-1296 has been introduced into the current 2025 session. If passed, the bill will gut the key provisions in Initiative 2081 that requires public schools to open records to parents.

Under a cliché-ridden guise of providing "safe, inclusive, spaces for children where everyone is heard, seen and appreciated," state educators and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI, have implemented policies and procedures specifically crafted to cut parents out of the equation. Under existing state law and school district policy, children can be referred to local medical service providers to receive birth control medications, abortions, administration of puberty blocking hormones, and even radical surgeries without parental involvement in the decision making process.

Across the state tens of thousands are becoming aware of how the political games are played in Olympia. Recognizing that a radical faction controls the public school system, regional library systems, the legislature, the supreme court, and the governor's office, organizations are popping up across the state to lay the foundations for recapturing public institutions. Leaders recognize it is a complicated and convoluted process but they are confident of eventual success. Building an informed electorate and providing courageous leadership will, they contend, allow parents and the taxpaying public to change direction for Washington. In light of the state's well entrenched, corrupting Marxist factions, they have their work cut out for them.