
Support for Amy

From JL E [REDACTED]
Date Tue 2025-06-24 10:48 PM
To Amy Geistlinger <Amy.Geistlinger@sd23.bc.ca>; Board of Education <Boardof.Education@sd23.bc.ca>

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Hi, I'd just like to say that I support Amy's right to not have her photo be taken with Mr. Cook when he won his award for his drag queen work.

In a free and civilized society no one is ever forced to participate in a photo opp of any kind. Can you imagine the teachers FORCING a child student to partake in a group photo? No, their request to not be in the picture would be fully respected. They might be encouraged to join in but if they ultimately did not want to, they would not have to. I am a teacher as well and I know this to be true.

The fact that some are calling for an apology from her is outrageous.

It's my understanding that she was not belligerent nor radically outspoken about the award event but rather she just chose to not be in the picture that was to be publicly posted. The notion that this is even making the news and people are offended just shows how dangerously close we are to having our right of refusal, our right of association and our right of freedom in general be obliterated by those who want to force their desires upon everyone, even those who don't share those same desires.

Amy should be proud of standing up for her choices and the board should be unilaterally supporting her right to make those choices even if they don't agree with the particular choice she made. It's ok that we aren't all the same.

Signed,
JL , a fellow teacher