From: To:

Board of Education

Cc: Lee-Ann Tiede; Kevin Kaardal

Subject: National Post Article about backlash of June 1st student absenteeism

Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 10:21:17 AM

Attachments: "All schools must comply" – schools get heavy-handed against Pride backlash National Post.html

WARNING: This email originated from outside Central Okanagan Public Schools. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear SD23 Board Trustees and Superintendent Kevin Kaardal,

I've attached the above article below for your reference. Many students across Canada stayed at home on June 1st to make a statement against schools changing Pride Day into Pride Month and considering flying the Pride Flag at schools. This article provides a quote from BC Education Minister, Rachna Singh's stating that "All schools must comply with the Human Rights Code and demonstrate they are creating safe, welcoming and inclusive environments for our students and staff". I would like to emphasize that it is important to remember that that applies to ALL students and not just special interest students. Not all students "see themselves reflected in the world around them through stories of same-gender parents or math problems that use 'they/them' pronouns in a school environment...". In fact, some students see themselves reflected in a nuclear family environment where they attend school to learn reading, writing and math and other wholesome subjects. Subjects that are not designed to address a minority group of students in the name of inclusiveness and diversity.

I have not yet received a response from SD23 for my email of May 24th addressing the flying of the Pride Flag at our public schools as it is NOT an INCLUSIVE FLAG. The Canadian and Provincial Flags represent ALL Canadians and British Columbians not just a select few. I would appreciate hearing how you plan to address my concerns.

Again, thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Linda Dueck, Grandmother of 3 in SD23