



Rick Stefanik <rmstefanik@gmail.com>

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## Conversation

1 message

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**Lynda Acker** <Ima1abilis@gmail.com>  
To: Rick Stefanik <rmstefanik@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Hi Rick,

I have given a great deal of thought to our conversation on Tuesday. I understand your and Cassie's frustration with the situation, your desire for ██████ to finish the school year ASAP, and of course your need for him to be safe in school.

Your earlier request for a face-to-face meeting with administration was not granted, and instead, you were asked to communicate with administration in writing. I believe that the request for written communication was simply an attempt to accurately preserve records of dialogue since the situation appeared to be taking a legal turn. While this certainly was not meant to be off-putting, it resulted in your feeling unheard, perhaps even dismissed.

This saddens me because you and your family are valued and respected members of the O'Neal Community. Cassie as an alumnus, you as a past member of the Board of Trustees, and your precious children constitute an exemplary O'Neal family and we are proud that you have chosen the School to provide your children's education.

Before taking the step of involving other Board members in this situation, I would like to have the opportunity to set up a face-to-face conversation among you, Cassie, Mr. Elmore, and Mrs. Walters. I think that this is something that should have happened already and, based upon our conversation, it is evident that you wanted it to happen as well. I feel that all parties need to hear each other, and this has not yet occurred. As I mentioned, I am in New York for the summer, but I would be more than happy to attend the meeting virtually.

As I recall from the general description of the incident I was given by administration a couple of months ago, there are differing accounts of what happened. By laying out the timeline and the medical evidence, the details of the incident and its sequelae can come into clearer focus.

Also, understandably, you would like ██████ to complete his ERB testing so that he can finish the sixth grade and move on to seventh. I can't imagine this is not the desire of administration as well. I would be happy to inquire about this if you would like me to do so.

I share your concerns that Central Campus and the Middle School playground should be more carefully monitored going forward. As Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, I know that a considerable number of exterior cameras have been added to campus recently. I will inquire as to when the above-mentioned areas will receive cameras and request that the Middle School institute a system whereby teachers monitor the areas where children are playing during recess, lunch, and after school.

Please let me know if you and Cassie are open to the idea of meeting with members of the administration and me. If you do so and you remain unsatisfied with the process, the opportunity to address the issues differently would still exist.

I apologize that I am writing this in an email rather than calling you directly, but I wanted to make sure that I accurately and completely conveyed my thoughts and I tend to do that best in writing.

With kindest regards,

Lynda

Sent from my iPhone