

██████████@fcps.edu>

Subject: Subject: CASE-0000741991 SB Portal Case - You have been CC'ed

Case Number: CASE-0000741991

Client: ██████████ who lives in the ██████████ district CC-ed you on a School Board Portal case. You are not the primary assignee of this case.

Summary: My name is ██████████ and I am both a Fairfax County resident and a Fairfax County Public Schools teacher.

It has been a week since Hamas staged an attack against Israel and broke down the blockage between Gaza and Israel. The Superintendent and School Board swiftly responded to the community with a message in support of all lives in the region.

Since this event, Israel has aggressively and indiscriminately bombed Gaza and terrorized other occupied Palestinian territories. Thousands of Palestinians have been killed by the occupying force, millions are being forced to flee to the southern end of Gaza, and the occupying force has since cut off food, water, and electricity--a clear human rights violation and war crime.

I remain appalled that since Israel's disproportional and escalated retaliation, no further comments have been made to the community. As a Muslim resident, I feel disappointed in my elected officials and alienated from the community at large. As an FCPS teacher, I am left abandoned. No resources have been provided for teachers to facilitate courageous and empathetic conversations, no direction has been given on how to best support students of all backgrounds and faiths, and no space has been held to humanize Arab and Muslim teachers and students.

The School Board was quick to speak up when Israeli lives were lost, but is silent to the ongoing loss of Palestinian lives. You might think that your silence is balanced, neutral, and measured. However, the Muslim community, the Palestinian community, and countless interfaith communities against the Palestinian apartheid see your silence as a conscious choice to side with the oppressor.

I strongly urge the Board to act with humanity, decency, and courage and send a message to the community that Palestinian lives matter in Fairfax County Public Schools. I strongly urge this Board to provide the community with resources that actively seek to uplift, humanize, and legitimize the Palestinian experience while protecting Palestinian, Arab, and Muslim voices.

Respectfully,

██████████

From: [REDACTED] (School Board Member) [REDACTED]@fcps.edu> on behalf of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@fcps.edu>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2023 11:36 AM EDT
To: [REDACTED]@gmail.com <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
CC: [REDACTED] (School Board Member) [REDACTED]@fcps.edu>
Subject: CASE-0000741991 SB Portal Case - You have been CC'ed - Support for Palestinians

Good morning, [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your email. Your feedback is very important to me, and I appreciate your advocacy on behalf of the atrocities against Palestinians. Please know that I read the following statement prior to the moment of silence at last week's School Board meeting.

"During tonight's moment of silence many of our Board members would like to share our care and concern for the victims, their loved ones, and our entire Jewish community who are suffering from Saturday's vicious terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel. We further extend our care and concern for all civilians in Israel, Gaza and the surrounding areas who may be impacted by the ensuing war. Additionally, we wish to reaffirm that antisemitism, hate, and xenophobia have no place in our schools, and will not be tolerated."

I so appreciate all you do for our students.

If you continue to have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach back out to me.

My best regards-

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
FCPS School Board Member
Springfield District
[REDACTED]@fcps.edu

Please be aware that correspondence with School Board members is subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. This means that your correspondence may be made public if (1) it deals with FCPS business and (2) someone requests it--even if you have asked that your message be kept confidential. Only a few topics are exempt from the disclosure requirement, such as information about identifiable students, and personnel information about individual employees.

-----Original Message-----

From: FCPS ClientCommunications [REDACTED]@fcps.edu>
Sent: Sunday, October 15, 2023 2:18 PM
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[REDACTED]