

From: REDACTED

Sent: Friday, March 8, 2024 8:21 AM

To: Nicolet, Diane M <DNicolet@WashoeSchools.net>; Mayberry, Adam <Adam.Mayberry@WashoeSchools.net>; Woodley, Alex <Alex.Woodley@WashoeSchools.net>; Smith, Elizabeth A <Elizabeth.Smith@WashoeSchools.net>; Rodriguez, Joseph M <Joseph.Rodriguez@WashoeSchools.net>; Westlake, Colleen M <Colleen.Westlake@WashoeSchools.net>; Church, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Church@WashoeSchools.net>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Our Children Deserve Better

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Dear Washoe County School District Board of Trustees:

I write to express my concern, anger and disappointment with the actions of Trustee Jeffrey Church; those actions endanger the mission of our schools and the ability of our children to learn. They also further harass and intimidate District employees who were brave enough to come forward about inappropriate behavior by a man in a position of power.

Instead of working collaboratively as a Board to help our students, one Trustee, yet again, is forcing the District to waste time and \$500,000 of taxpayer money to address his vindictive, personal grudges. \$500,000 to defend the District against yet another lawsuit and the threat of future lawsuits, all from one person. This time, he's suing to be able to name and shame whistleblowers that have spoken out against his sexual harassment. \$500,000 that would be directly taken away from the same pool of money that we use to fund our schools and pay District employees.

There are countless better uses for \$500,000 that could help our children and their teachers. We could invest that money in pay raises for our educators, ensuring that they can make ends meet and attract the best talent possible. We could also help support

school libraries with greater resources and books, since only 41% of students in 3rd - 8th grade can meet grade level standards in English language arts.

Instead, Trustee Church would rather have that \$500,000 spent defending the Washoe County School District against his onslaught of lawsuits.

What does this behavior teach our children? That it's fine to use your power to bully those who speak out against you? That their educational needs and aspirations are to be delayed and denied because we're wasting taxpayer dollars to attack the victims of harassment?

This is an embarrassment for our school district. Our children deserve better than to see their educational futures wasted on petty lawsuits. I encourage the Board of Trustees to condemn the actions of Trustee Church in the strongest possible terms and to show Washoe County parents and taxpayers that the Board of Trustees is committed to helping our children, not wasting time on baseless lawsuits. Enough is enough.

Sincerely,  
REDACTED