

Good evening- I am Kevin Gagnon residing at
two children attending our public schools.

Salem, New Hampshire with

I am appearing before you in Good Faith with a Spirit of cooperation to discuss the matter of Religious Freedom.

According to the First Amendment of the United States Constitution:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press: or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Our New Hampshire Bill of Rights Article 4 specifies that among the natural rights, some are in their very nature unalienable, because no equivalent can be given or received for them. Of this kind is the Rights of Conscience.

Article 5 states in part that every individual has a natural and unalienable right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience.

Martin Luther King, Jr. an advocate for the First Amendment said:

Unless I am convinced by sacred Scripture, or by evident reason, I cannot recant, for my conscience is held captive by the word of God, and to act against conscience is neither right nor safe.

Our Declaration of Independence acknowledges a Creator as the Source of these unalienable, individual rights, that governments are formed to secure.

It is important for us Americans to know our rights and respect an individual's conscience and have understanding of the meaning thereof. The prefix con means with, while the root word science means knowledge. We the people have the right to "believe it or not", that this knowledge is greater than ourselves.

New Hampshire Law RSA 189: 1b directs the Superintendent of Schools to establish regulations that make available a period of not more than (5) minutes in each school day for those who wish to exercise their right to Freedom of Assembly and Freedom of Religion.

I am asking the Board to provide copies of this districts useful factual data as it pertains to policy ACD-R #4 concerning the legislation and the availability of this Law and Regulation.

Now that I have presented some Legal framework regarding Religious Freedom. I will share my major concerns which completely go against my religious and moral beliefs, and my conscience.

Mask mandate- By dehumanizing individuals who are made in the image of God. And also by compromising our God given immune system through oxygen deprivation and the inability to exhale toxins.

Social distancing- By fostering the feeling of isolation. By reducing self-esteem. By increasing anxiety. By leading to depression and self harm or suicide.

Pornography/Pedophilia materials in the Salem High School Library - By exposing students to material that normalizes obscene and sexually explicit behavior.

It appears that my major concerns are also yours based on publicly available school board policy and the student hand book.

So herein lies the contradictions.

To force a child to wear a mask puts a very small and specific portion of society ahead of the child and also puts any monetary incentives ahead of the child. Which goes completely against your staff ethics that states you must recognize and place the welfare of children as the first concern of the district.

To require students to social distance is a form of bullying as you have documented in your infractions and recommended consequences document in the student handbook. It states endangering the mental health includes forced prolonged exclusion from social contact.

To offer obscene material in the High School Library including pornography and pedophilia is not only immoral, but also illegal as noted in the technology responsible use document under obscenity and also listed as a level 3 offense in the student handbook.

Seeing that the mask mandates, social distancing, and obscene library materials contradict your own policies, you have no option other than to remove mask mandates, remove social distancing, and remove obscene library materials, all of which go against our shared moral beliefs.

Keep in mind we began this meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, where all of you pledged Liberty and Justice for ALL. Not some. ALL.

Moving forward, please be more considerate and courteous to questions verbalized or written by parents and others in a Spirit of cooperation.

After hearing all that I have presented to you I expect immediate action.

Thank you.