

May 29, 2012

Dr. Ural:

Several of your actions and statements since you were elected to the board have been grossly inappropriate and unprofessional. I am making this statement to put you on notice that such behavior will not be tolerated by me, as the Chair of the School Committee.

The policy for the District to communicate with the Committee through the First Class email accounts set up for us by the District is my decision. If you would like to terminate this account please notify me in writing or by email at my school account. Please indicate whether you would like your listing linked to another account. Your email message to an employee of the school district accusing them of misconduct and threatening a lawsuit is appalling, and your actions have exposed the Committee to potential lawsuits. You are not to contact any school employee directly on School Committee business. The employees are the responsibility of the Superintendent and not the Committee.

You are misguided in believing that you have the right to privacy in communicating with your constituents by email. You are an elected official and all communication between you and the public as an elected official are public record. Use of a private email account exposes you to the risk and expense of legal discovery should anyone request these emails. It was your threats of subpoena of former School Committee member's personal emails the last time you sat on this board that led me to implement my policy.

Further, it is your duty as an elected official to act on matters that are School Committee agenda or action items as part of the Committee and not as a private citizen. Your decision to send letters on your company letterhead to our membership, selected Town officials and to the press circumvents our ability to act as a board on matters that concern us. You have the same right as any board member to bring an agenda item to the Chair or the Superintendent for inclusion in our public meetings.

Your statements at the April 24th meeting extending your condolences to our new High School principal were highly inappropriate and I apologize to the Committee for not calling you out on that behavior on the spot. I was appalled by those statements and by your allegations of wrongdoing by our former Superintendent. The latter comments referred to unsubstantiated allegations that you have continued to make regarding Mr. Sarno. When spoken at a public meeting one might perceive them to be the view of the board. Your statements do not reflect the view of this board. Please refrain from making such slanderous comments and conduct yourself in the manner appropriate to your elected position.

Regards,

Joyce A. Hussein
School Committee Chair