EXHIBIT 18

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From:

Aaron Leavell

To:

Randy Dorn

Subject:

Re: Your Response to Prayer Issue

Wednesday, October 21, 2015 11:03:07 AM Date:



Thank you, Randy. I appreciate you taking the time to acknowledge our situation and to reinforce our position on the matter. The issue is quickly changing as it has shifted from leading prayer with student athletes, to a coaches right to conduct a personal, private prayer....on the 50 yard line. We are working through this together and with the assistance of our attorneys. For the sake of our students rights and the rights of our employee(s), I hope we can find a positive solution that meets the needs of our staff member(s), and legally upholds the rulings of previous Supreme Court cases to protect all students rights. Again, thank you very much. It helps to know we have your support! Sincerely,

Aaron Leavell

On Tue, Oct 20, 2015 at 4:41 PM, Randy Dorn < Randy.Dorn@k12.wa.us> wrote:

Superintendent Leavell:

I'm emailing you to provide my support regarding district staff leading prayers at football games.

My approach to complicated issues usually comes down to common sense, and that's no different in this case. I have no problem with students or staff exercising their right to silently pray on their own. But we have a firm and foundational policy in this country separating church and state. When a school official decides to lead a prayer, he or she puts students in an awkward position. That's not fair to students who don't share the official's faith. What's more, that official could open the district up to a lawsuit.

I want to commend you on how you've handled the situation. I hope it can be resolved quickly and without harm either to students, staff, or the district.

Randy I. Dorn

State Superintendent

of Public Instruction

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Aaron Leavell Ed.D.

Superintendent

Bremerton School District