



Yakaitis, Carolyn <cyakaitis@ellingtonschools.net>

Assistance with FOIA Request

3 messages

Yakaitis, Carolyn <cyakaitis@ellingtonschools.net>
To: "LaPorte, Kristy" <klaporte@ellingtonschools.net>

Wed, Mar 26, 2025 at 3:45 PM

Good afternoon Kristy,
I am processing an FOIA request and require your assistance.

In the district's search for all disciplinary records, letters of discipline, Title IX complaints, investigation findings, and any other school records for former Ellington Public Schools' teacher Jason Scavotto that are related or relevant to testimony presented before the Connecticut General Assembly's Labor and Public Employees Committee, we have been unable to locate any Title IX complaints or investigation findings related or relevant to this issue.

Please read the full testimony here.

The pertinent aspect of Mr. Scavotto's testimony I am referring to is as follows:

"Now, it's important to note that I previously needed to file a Title IX complaint against this superintendent when he accused me of 'talking about my weird religious beliefs during class.'"

As you are the Title IX Coordinator for the Ellington Public Schools (2013 - present) may you please confirm that you are not in receipt of any Title IX complaints and/or investigation findings relative to Jason Scavotto and his testimony before the CT General Assembly?

Thank you,
Carolyn

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Carolyn Yakaitis, Coordinator of Human Resources
cyakaitis@ellingtonschools.net
47 Main St, P.O. Box 179
Ellington, CT 06029
(ofc) 860-896-2300 x122 | (mob) 860-734-7455
Ellington Public Schools
Seeds of Civility

LaPorte, Kristy <klaporte@ellingtonschools.net>
To: "Yakaitis, Carolyn" <cyakaitis@ellingtonschools.net>

Wed, Mar 26, 2025 at 6:34 PM

Hello Carolyn,

As the Title IX District Coordinator, I am able to confirm that Mr. Scavotto did not file a Title IX complaint of any kind against the Superintendent, relative to his testimony or otherwise. Therefore, there are no investigative findings as there was never a complaint filed by Mr. Scavotto with my office.

Please let me know if you need anything further.

Thanks,

Kristy
[Quoted text hidden]

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Kristy LaPorte Ed.D

Director of Special Services

47 Main St.

Ellington, CT. 06029

860-896-2300 x115

Ellington Public Schools Seeds of Civility

<https://www.ellingtonpublicschools.org/district-information/seeds-of-civility>

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Yakaitis, Carolyn <cyakaitis@ellingtonschools.net>
To: "LaPorte, Kristy" <klaporte@ellingtonschools.net>

Thu, Mar 27, 2025 at 8:51 AM

Kristy,
Thanks so much for your prompt response.
Best,
Carolyn
[Quoted text hidden]



Yakaitis, Carolyn <cyakaitis@ellingtonschools.net>

Assistance with FOIA Request

2 messages

Yakaitis, Carolyn <cyakaitis@ellingtonschools.net>
To: John Guidry <jguidry@ellingtonschools.net>

Wed, Mar 26, 2025 at 3:45 PM

Good afternoon John,
I am processing an FOIA request and require your assistance.

In the district's search for all disciplinary records, letters of discipline, Title IX complaints, investigation findings, and any other school records for former Ellington Public Schools' teacher Jason Scavotto that are related or relevant to testimony presented before the Connecticut General Assembly's Labor and Public Employees Committee, we have been unable to locate any letters of discipline written by the administration relative to this issue.

Please read the full testimony here.

The pertinent aspect of Mr. Scavotto's testimony I am referring to is as follows:

"The building principal then issued me written discipline as directed by the superintendent of schools. This discipline included a formal disciplinary letter in my file..."

May you please confirm that you or other members of Ellington High School Administration (Assistant Principals Marc Richard and Brandon Hubrins), did not write a letter of discipline for Jason Scavotto relative to his testimony before the CT General Assembly?

Thank you,
Carolyn

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Carolyn Yakaitis, Coordinator of Human Resources
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Ellington Public Schools
Seeds of Civility

Guidry, John <jguidry@ellingtonschools.net>
To: "Yakaitis, Carolyn" <cyakaitis@ellingtonschools.net>

Thu, Mar 27, 2025 at 9:17 AM

Good morning, Carolyn!

As I think about both the matter in question and Board Chair Jennifer Dzen's positive reply to Mr. Scavotto's letter, I can confirm that no member of Ellington High School administration--including me--drafted a letter of discipline at the direction of the Superintendent (or any other Ellington Public School employee) for Mr. Scavotto regarding the matter described in Mr. Scavotto's testimony to the Connecticut General Assembly.

Please let me know if there is anything else that you might need from me.



John R. Guidry, J.D.

Principal
Ellington High School
37 Maple Street
Ellington, CT 06029
860-896-2352

The Culture of Ellington Public Schools is grounded in our Seeds of Civility.

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Scavotto, Jason <jscavotto@ellingtonschools.net>

Culture and Climate at EHS

Scavotto, Jason <jscavotto@ellingtonschools.net>

Thu, May 6, 2021 at 7:04 AM

To: gblanchette@ellingtonschools.net, jdzen@ellingtonschools.net, mkupferschmid@ellingtonschools.net, jmullin@ellingtonschools.net, lnord@ellingtonschools.net, myoung@ellingtonschools.net, Kristen Picard-Wambolt <kpocardwambolt@ellingtonschools.net>, ksocha@ellingtonschools.net, munderwood@ellingtonschools.net, amoser@ellingtonschools.net

Hello Board of Education Members,

I've attached a letter regarding the wonderful work that the faculty and students are doing here at EHS in hopes that you will offer your support for the initiatives, clubs, and activities that these organizations are doing.

Thank you,
Jason Scavotto
English Department
Ellington High School

Social Justice Work At EHS

May 6, 2021

Dear Ellington Board of Education:

Over the past two months, I have been witness to a wonderful movement in the student body and faculty at Ellington High School that embraces the crucial, validating, and pertinent social justice work that our community needs. Since the advent of Diversity Day, our students have become true advocates for their peers and are using their voices to address injustices that they witness within our system. Student leaders like, but not limited to, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], and [REDACTED] have organized clubs such as GSA, The Women's Leadership Coalition, The Race Unity Club, ULC, and the beginnings of a culture and climate hub, called the Action Alliance, to oversee this work. These clubs will help to ensure that every student in our building has their culture represented. They have approached a number of faculty members including Melissa Scarbrough, Julia Canova, Tessla Donovan, Caleb Johnston, Gomathi Ramachandran, Kim Reilly, Gillian Zieger, Andrea Howarth, Paul Grzyb, Dillian Schroth, and Ben Giorgi about doing this work and these teachers have become valuable coaches and mentors to our students.

I am writing to you to both celebrate the work that our students and teachers have begun and to ask that you support this work as a priority in our district. Anti-racist and anti-biased approaches to education are not controversial. They simply ensure that ALL students are on an equal level, have their personal stories heard, have equitable opportunities, are validated, and have reinforcement that their identities matter. There is still a lot of work to be done and our students and staff are willing to spearhead that effort. I am asking for your support as we move forward.

As a community, we can look inward by conducting a study of our culture and climate, we can revise curricula to be inclusive, we can analyze our hiring practices, we can analyze our discipline procedures, we can build cultural fluency in our staff, and we can embrace culturally responsive classrooms. The Center For School Change and UCONN's NEAG Department is willing to pair with us to do this work. I'm asking you to set this as a priority for next year and the years that follow. Will we make mistakes and suffer setbacks as we embark on this journey? Yes, we will. However, as the CT SEED Rubrics state, an exemplary teacher "leads efforts to enhance culturally respectful interactions with students, families and the community" and exemplary administrators "collaborate with all stakeholders to promote educational equity, dignity and social justice by ensuring all students have access to educational opportunities." Please offer your support to the students and staff at Ellington High School to create an environment that is safe, inclusive, validating, and free from all systems of oppression.

Sincerely,
Jason Scavotto
English Department
Ellington High School



Scavotto, Jason <jscavotto@ellingtonschools.net>

Culture and Climate at EHS

Dzen, Jen <jdzen@ellingtonschools.net>

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 3:48 PM

To: "Scavotto, Jason" <jscavotto@ellingtonschools.net>

Cc: Gary Blanchette <gblanchette@ellingtonschools.net>, Marcia Kupferschmid <mkupferschmid@ellingtonschools.net>, Jennifer Mullin <jmullin@ellingtonschools.net>, Liz Nord <lnord@ellingtonschools.net>, Michael Young <myoung@ellingtonschools.net>, Kristen Picard-Wambolt <kpicaardwambolt@ellingtonschools.net>, Kerry Socha <ksocha@ellingtonschools.net>, "Underwood, Miriam" <munderwood@ellingtonschools.net>, Angela Moser <amoser@ellingtonschools.net>, Scott Nicol <snicol@ellingtonschools.net>, John Guidry <jguidry@ellingtonschools.net>

Dear Jason,

Thank you for reaching out to the Board regarding the culture and climate at Ellington High School. We appreciate your positive comments and honor the work that the entire high school has done to create a more equitable and inclusive environment.

The Board has, is and will continue to support all of our Core Values and Beliefs including the belief that we create an equitable, inclusive, and supportive culture where people are safe, accepted and valued at every school in our district.. The support and work around this belief will change and evolve with time but the constant will be our attention to ensuring its success.

We look forward to continuing this journey with students, staff, administration, parents and all other stakeholders for there is more learning in the journey than the actual goal.

Sincerely, Jen

Jennifer Dzen, Board Chair
Ellington Board of Education

[Quoted text hidden]

John Guidry, Principal
Ellington High School
37 Maple St.
Ellington, CT 06029

Jason Scavotto
1690 King St.
Enfield, CT 06082

July 29, 2021

Dear Mr. John Guidry:

I hereby submit my resignation, for personal reasons, from my position as teacher at Ellington High School within the Ellington Public School system. I have given sufficient notice, before the first of August, therefore, I will not be returning to the Ellington Public School system for any portion of the 2021-2022 school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jason Scavotto". The signature is enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

Jason Scavotto