

From: Angela Reading
To: Helen Payne
Cc: rduff@northhanovertwp.com
Subject: CONCERNS FOR THE SAFETY OF MY CHILDREN
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 1:00:09 PM
Attachments: July.jpeg

4#2

Ms. Payne,

I wanted to inform you about a defamatory and inflammatory **petition** being shared throughout our community, jeopardizing my children's health and safety at school. Many North Hanover staff members shared the petition online, including the school Secretary July Kamin (see attached picture). It is abhorrent for a North Hanover staff member who controls the entry points of the school to share a petition attacking a parent and bringing negative attention to the district. She has put a target on my kid's back. I feel sick about this.

I truly am worried about sending them to school tomorrow and would like your advice on how you can assure my children will not be targeted with violence or mistreatment by members of your staff and/or other students.

Also, I'd like to know what policy you have for staff members sharing openly political and defamatory statements/petitions against parents in the community. I know government employees have limited First Amendment rights.

A counter-petition was written by someone I know from law school.

I have included the Police Chief in this email, given the serious safety risk to my children.

Respectfully,

Angela Reading
J.D. Candidate, 2023
Villanova Charles Widger School of Law
angela.reading726@gmail.com
609-284-6595

Posts

 Photos



July Angel

...

1h · Change.org · 



change.org

This petition needs your help

 2

1 share

From: [Angela Reading](#)
To: [Helen Payne](#)
Cc: rduff@northhanovertwp.com
Subject: Re: CONCERNS FOR THE SAFETY OF MY CHILDREN
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 2:49:08 PM
Attachments: [Image1.jpeg](#)

Helen,



Angela Reading
Sent from my iPhone
Please pardon brevity
& autocorrects

On Dec 4, 2022, at 2:11 PM, Angela Reading <angela.reading726@gmail.com> wrote:

Ms. Payne,

Below is the policy that July violated. Her behavior, as the face of the school and longtime employee, has put my kids in jeopardy of retaliation and mistreatment.

This is the second time a North Hanover staff member has put my family at risk for their personal vendettas (sharing of my personal email).

ELANOnline District Policies
(straussesmay.com)



Angela Reading
Sent from my iPhone
Please pardon brevity
& autocorrects

On Dec 4, 2022, at 1:13 PM, Angela Reading
<angela.reading726@gmail.com> wrote:

I'm sorry; I forgot to link the counter-petition to my original email.

Please call me today. I need to know if I can/should send my kids to school tomorrow.

2:45



NBC Parents



Nik Stouffer shared a link.



3h · 🌐

@everyone, please read and sign this petition. we need to encourage people to continue to say the truth about what is happening in our schools.

change.org

Sign the Petition

47

22 comments 7 shares

Like

Comment

Share



Mike Jones

Grew up and went to school in this district, it's sad to see what... See more

Like Reply



Courtney Szymanski

Mike I encourage you to do your research. NB & NHT continue to be great schools - this petition is extremely one sided.

On Sun, Dec 4, 2022 at 12:59 PM Angela Reading
<angela.reading726@gmail.com> wrote:
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angela.reading726@gmail.com
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From: [Angela Reading](#)
To: [Helen Payne](#)
Cc: rduff@northhanovertwp.com
Subject: Re: CONCERNS FOR THE SAFETY OF MY CHILDREN
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 2:11:52 PM

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ELANOnline District Policies
sirauss@smay.com



Angela Reading
Sent from my iPhone
Please pardon brevity
& autocorrects

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J.D. Candidate, 2023

Villanova Charles Widger School of Law

angela.reading726@gmail.com

609-284-6595

From: [Angela Reading](#)
To: [Helen Payne](#)
Cc: rduff@northhanovertwp.com
Subject: Re: CONCERNS FOR THE SAFETY OF MY CHILDREN
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 1:14:12 PM

I'm sorry; I forgot to link the counter-petition to my original email.

Please call me today. I need to know if I can/should send my kids to school tomorrow.

On Sun, Dec 4, 2022 at 12:59 PM Angela Reading <angela.reading726@gmail.com> wrote:
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angela.reading726@gmail.com
609-284-6595

From: Angela Reading <angela.reading726@gmail.com>
To: "rduff@northhanoverwp.com" <rduff@northhanoverwp.com>
Cc: "rdebaecke@northhanoverwp.com" <rdebaecke@northhanoverwp.com>
Date: November 30, 2022 6:48 PM
Subject: Community Member Concern with Government Censorship of Facebook Post

Officer Duff,

First and foremost, I want to thank you for your service. It is a very difficult time to be a police officer. Your hard work and dedication do not go unnoticed. My family and I are truly grateful for everything you and your fellow officers do. Please let me know if you ever need anything.

With that said, I am deeply concerned with a phone call I received this evening from your high school classmate, who informed me that you used your official government position as Police Chief of North Hanover Township to suggest she remove my post on the NJ Fresh Faced Facebook page. Although she stated you did not issue her a legal mandate, your position as a Police Chief was arguably enough to scare her into compliance.

Legal Context:

As I am sure you are aware, the First Amendment gives everyone residing in the United States the right to hear all sides of every issue and to make their own judgments about those issues without government interference or limitations. Moreover, the Supreme Court has said that political speech is the most important—and thus most protected—kind of speech in our democracy. To quote Justice Brennan, our country is guided by the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide open.

- I am aware there are limits to the First Amendment; among them are time, place, and manner restrictions, and categorical exceptions such as obscenity, child pornography, and speech that constitutes so-called "incitement," "fighting words," or "true threats."

My Post:

As I am sure you know, my post on Facebook did not violate any law or Facebook code of conduct. First, I posted pictures of anonymous posters, which were hung for the public to see in the main hallway of a tax-payer-funded building (a school). I did not name any student, staff member, or school. I only stated North Hanover Township. Even if I did name the school, that would have been fine. Second, my post respectfully expressed my concerns and did not call for public action or response. I did not threaten anyone, legally incite violence, or violate any provision of the law. As a mother, I shared my opinions (protected by the First Amendment). Because you targeted my post for its explicit critique of the school, this is a form of impermissible viewpoint discrimination under the First Amendment.

Questions:

(1) Teachers, parents, school administrators, and students post pictures daily from the school (many with actual pictures of children). Many of the pictures posted daily share information about school entry points (security issue), students' names and faces (seems like a security issue), and other information that anyone could argue could add "risk" to school security. **Have you ever asked anyone in the past to remove any of their posts?**

(2) Would you have called for my post to be removed if I posted the same pictures with a glowing review of the assignment and posters?

(3) If you had concerns about my post, why was I not contacted directly? Why did you go directly to a content provider on Facebook and request censorship?

(4) Do you know if it's your practice to make personal calls to remove social media posts when you get community complaints?

Final Point

As a mother, I use my voice to challenge the government when I believe they are harming my children. I know that not everyone will agree, and I am ok with that. With that in mind, I am deeply concerned by members of the public linking my personal concerns with my seven-year-old daughter being exposed to terms involving sexual attraction (polysexual and pansexual) with the Colorado shooting and school shootings. This is a form of moral blackmail that should not be tolerated.

The threat of gun violence should be removed from our political discussions because it is inherently flawed, malicious, and self-serving. **Gun violence should not be simplified, politicized, and weaponized to silence dissenting views that don't align with your values.**

Outside of criminal incitement, the horrible and malicious acts of one cannot be blamed on the public/political speech of another. For example, the five Dallas officers killed in 2016 cannot be blamed on BLM or those who advocated violence against police officers. The man who shot a Republican member of congress in 2017 was a Bernie Sanders supporter; however, Bernie Sanders was not to blame. I think you get my point.

Based on the data, we cannot say what does and does not "cause" gun violence in every circumstance. We can only speculate based on the self-reports of shooters if they are even available. Gun violence can often be linked to childhood trauma and mental illness (which seems to be the case for the non-binary shooter in Colorado). We can determine that there is NO objective evidence to suggest that a mother sharing public artwork and a story about her daughter's experience reading such artwork will lead to violence. That is absurd on its face.

The above statements are made in my capacity as a private citizen and not in my capacity as a board member. These statements are also not representative of the board or its individual members and solely represent my personal opinions. My statements are not authorized by or written on behalf of the board. This matter involves the local public school district, I do not serve on the board.

Thank you for your time and support.

Feel free to call my cell at 609-284-6595.

Respectfully,

Angela Reading

J.D. Candidate, 2023

Villanova Charles Widger School of Law

angela.reading726@gmail.com

609-284-6595

From: Angela Reading <angela.reading726@gmail.com>
To: "rduff@northhanovertwp.com" <rduff@northhanovertwp.com>
Date: December 1, 2022 3:32 PM
Subject: Re: Community Member Concern with Government Censorship of Facebook Post

Officer Duff,

Thank you so much for speaking with me today. I truly appreciate the time you took to speak with me. Could you share the emails you mentioned you got from the base in our discussion today?

If you need a formal OPRA request, I can submit one, but hopefully, that isn't needed.

Have a wonderful evening!