

September 14, 2020 (comments by our School Board Chair to attendees at the school board meeting)

The Board appreciates everyone for their comments and feedback on the myriad of topics discussed; and especially regarding this personnel matter - we wish for you to know that we truly value those of you that spoke this evening.

The Board does not believe that a one-time use of curricular materials ought to define a teaching career and is most certainly not a terminable offense. Therefore, we wish for everyone to know that when a teacher uses material that may be controversial as an aspect of the greater curriculum - we address it internally. This instance is no different than similar personnel matters that we manage on any given day - we address each situation as it arises.

Furthermore, we wish to acknowledge that this is a highly-charged and emotional topic - that, there are varying perspectives and that we know there is work to do. Work that should be done collaboratively as a community. Therefore, we will continue to work with our Mayor, City Council, Police Department, the Burlington Coalition and the National Equity Project as we seek to improve our service to our amazing community.