

#### Meeting times

4 messages

**Kate Deprizio** <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

Good morning, Colby!

Does Monday anytime after 2:30pm or Wednesday at 11:00 or 12:00pm work for you?

Looking forward to hearing back from you!

Warmly, Kate DePrizio

Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hi Kate, can we do Monday at 2:30? Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2024, at 9:41 AM, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> wrote:

Good morning, Colby! [Quoted text hidden]

This email has been scanned for spam & viruses. If you believe this email should have been stopped by our filters, click here to report it.

**Kate Deprizio** <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

Actually can we make it 2:45? A meeting finishes at 2:30, gives us a sec to get to Central Office!

Also for 9/10, I have a member asking to start at 5:30pm instead of 5:00pm, they have a conflict. Hoping this can work for you!

Thanks so much!

Warmly, Kate [Quoted text hidden]

**Colby Brunt** <CBrunt@scmllp.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Both of those time changes are fine with me. Thanks. Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2024, at 10:20 AM, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> wrote:

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 9:43 AM

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 10:16 AM

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 10:22 AM

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 10:22 AM

[Quoted text hidden]

## iMessage 9/10/2024 8:01:36 PM Tomorrow is going to be rough. Glad to have you on this committee, and beside me. 🍕 Emphasized "Maybe it was just talking to the AG and asking. Ei..." Loved "Glad to have you on this committee, and beside me...." This time tomorrow everyone will know the truth about him. The wind is about to leave his sails 🛩 That's hard to believe Ha I know. But a narcissist never sees it coming Will be interesting I'm honestly a little nervous. And know we are handling this in a thoughtful manner. As you can imagine are very worried and backpedaling, as they are scared, unfortunately the only way is through this, can't go around. Yea agreed. And they are protected in plausible deniability from the public view. It's specific enough of behavior but vague enough of personel Loved "Yea agreed. And they are protected in plausible de... But it needs to be called out. And HIM specifically. Accountability. Transparency. Trust. It's the only way to have those pillars of what we stand for I so appreciate your friendship and support. I truly mean it You're doing the right thing and I'll die on that hill Loved "You're doing the right thing and I'll die on that ... Loved "I so appreciate your friendship and support. I tru..." I'm so glad we are getting to know each other better. Me too!

Loved "Me too!"



Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

5 messages

Wed, Sep 11, 2024 at 8:44 AM

To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Bcc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Jamie,

I am writing regarding multiple concerns that have been brought to my attention as Chair of the School Committee. I have discussed these issues with our counsel and Attorney Brunt advised me to send this email to you.

The issues brought to my attention regard your communication with the Administrators, Principals, Athletic Department, Curriculum Department and teachers. I discussed these issues with our counsel and Attorney Brunt advised me to remind you that while you absolutely may speak to teachers and staff members about issues pertaining to your child; you need to be cognizant of the fact that you are a School Committee member and any perceived favoritism that may be inferred by a staff member due to your position or requests made through your communications. It is important for School Committee members to recognize that requests for academic placement or request for preferential treatment in athletics or extracurricular activities are not allowed and may by perceived as an abuse of power or potential ethics violation.

I have also become aware of the fact that you have been in regular communication with staff and community members about official School Committee business in a manner that may be perceived as undermining and subverting the authority of the School Committee, School Committee Chair and Superintendent. As you are aware, last year we all signed the School Committee operating protocols that specifically stated with respect to communications by members:

Recognize that authority rests only with majority decisions of the School Committee and wi *ll make no independent commitments or take any independent actions that may compromise the School Committee as a whole.* 

As such, the expectation is that all members will be mindful of any independent statements regarding School Committee business to staff and community members that may compromise the actions and authority of the Committee. Furthermore, I think it is important that members share with the rest of the Committee, at a minimum the School Committee Chair and Superintendent, any communications that they may have had regarding official Committee business in the interest of full transparency, adhering to appropriate communication channels, and our work as a collective board.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Kate DePrizio Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Annmarie Mccormick <mccormickan@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Here is the letter drafted by the lawyer that I sent to Mr. Hayman. Please let me know if you need anything else!

Warmly, Kate [Quoted text hidden]

Annmarie Mccormick <mccormickan@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Thank you Kate.

Take care.

Best Regards,

#### **Annmarie McCormick**

**Executive Assistant** 



#### LPS Website

LPS Google Maps

[Quoted text hidden]

**Kate Deprizio** <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Annmarie Mccormick <mccormickan@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Annmarie,

If the press or community asks for this letter please instruct them to ask me. They press has my contact information. It was not sent by nor involves the Superintendent and should be left under the purview of the committee to address directly.

Much appreciated!

Warmly, Kate [Quoted text hidden] Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 10:45 AM

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 10:47 AM

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 10:56 AM

#### To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

#### Hi Kate,

Thank you for the information. I will not share it with the press and I will instruct them to ask you.

Best Regards,

#### **Annmarie McCormick**

**Executive Assistant** 



LPS Website

LPS Google Maps

[Quoted text hidden]



## **Staff Concern Notification to School Committee Member**

5 messages

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 11:04 AM

Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>, Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Dan,

Morning! Hope this finds you recovering and feeling well.

Tom let me know that you contacted him for the letter that I read into record last night, as it is not under his purview, I am sending it to you. If you have any questions, as always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Wishing you a lovely day!

Warmly, Kate

Jamie,

I am writing regarding multiple concerns that have been brought to my attention as Chair of the School Committee. I have discussed these issues with our counsel and Attorney Brunt advised me to send this email to you.

The issues brought to my attention regard your communication with the Administrators, Principals, Athletic Department, Curriculum Department and teachers. I discussed these issues with our counsel and Attorney Brunt advised me to remind you that while you absolutely may speak to teachers and staff members about issues pertaining to your child; you need to be cognizant of the fact that you are a School Committee member and any perceived favoritism that may be inferred by a staff member due to your position or requests made through your communications. It is important for School Committee members to recognize that requests for academic placement or request for preferential treatment in athletics or extracurricular activities are not allowed and may by perceived as an abuse of power or potential ethics violation.

I have also become aware of the fact that you have been in regular communication with staff and community members about official School Committee business in a manner that may be perceived as undermining and subverting the authority of the School Committee, School Committee Chair and Superintendent. As you are aware, last year we all signed the School Committee operating protocols that specifically stated with respect to communications by members:

Recognize that authority rests only with majority decisions of the School Committee and wi ll make no independent commitments or take any independent actions that may compromise the School Committee as a whole.

As such, the expectation is that all members will be mindful of any independent statements regarding School Committee business to staff and community members that may compromise the actions and authority of the Committee. Furthermore, I think it is important that members share with the rest of the Committee, at a minimum the School Committee Chair and Superintendent, any communications that they may have had regarding official Committee business in the interest of full transparency, adhering to appropriate communication channels, and our work as a collective board.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Kate DePrizio Lynnfield School Committee Chair

**Dan Tomasello** <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hi Kate:

Thanks for sending me the letter, I appreciate it. I haven't watched the meeting yet as it hasn't been posted to Vimeo and I was covering First Responders Day last night. I will let you know if I have any questions for you, but I have been buried this week because I have been filling in for my boss, have two events to cover plus I had to cover the strip mall fire.

Also, did anyone take any pictures of the Dorothy Presser Award winners that can be sent to me?

I am feeling a lot better and I actually feel like myself again. I think remission is my new favorite word!

Thanks for the help as always, I appreciate it. Take care.

Dan [Quoted text hidden]

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

FYI

------ Forwarded message ------From: **Kristen Elworthy** <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Date: Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 12:19 PM Subject: Fwd: Staff Concern Notification to School Committee Member To: <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com>

Good morning Dan,

Given this request, I assume you plan to write about last night's meeting. I hope you will consider including commentary from members as opposed to solely quoting from the meeting itself. I'm offering mine below, but I do invite you to call me at any time for anything further, you have my number and I'm sure other members would be open to offering their thoughts on this. I will preface this by adding that I do not have any further information on what happened with Jamie than the letter below but I can comment on the following on the conduct in last night's meeting as well as ongoing issues. I recognize it is long but hopefully is helpful for context.

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Last night's School Committee meeting was not an easy one for any of us. Kate was in the unenviable position of having to execute a procedure driven by our attorney to notify a member of a protocol/ethics violation. Putting aside the content of the letter at this time,

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 11:12 AM

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 12:19 PM

Jamie's conduct during the meeting was unacceptable and in violation of our ethical standards as a public board. Calling other members and our superintendent liars in a public meeting with no basis or grounds is damaging to the School Committee and our district as a whole. Raising your voice to yell at a member is never acceptable. While he has every right to comment on and voice his objections to the letter with which he was presented, and I fully empathize that it was a difficult and emotional situation, it never should have gotten to the point of him treating Kate, Tom - or frankly the rest of the committee - in the way that he did.

While each of us are entitled to voice our opinion throughout our public meetings, Jamie has consistently demonstrated that his intent is to undermine our school committee - particularly our Chair and Superintendent Geary. One example of that crystallized last night, when Jamie admitted calling the Attorney General prior to an executive session (one that was attended by our lawyer) to see if it would be in violation of Open Meeting Law. A member who wanted to contribute to the integrity of the Committee would have first brought that concern to the Superintendent and Chair - not looked to create an ethics violation with the AG. The goal should have been to ensure we were in compliance (which we were) and if not, to do anything in his power to make sure that we got back on track prior to meeting.

Regardless of Jamie's personal feelings on Supt. Geary's hire, which he has made repeatedly and abundantly clear via public meeting and on social media, the fact is that a majority of our committee decided to hire him as Superintendent. Our ultimate job as a committee is to ensure the success of our district and our students. This means that we work to promote the success of our Superintendent - his success is our success, and the ENTIRE town's success. Meeting after meeting, Jamie has attempted to undermine Supt Geary's decision-making and authority, demonstrating clearly that he is not interested in collaborating but rather is playing some kind of "gotcha" game. By consistently undermining the authority of the School Committee and the Superintendent, Jamie is, in my opinion, not aligned with his very important duty as a School Committee member.

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

[Quoted text hidden]

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> \_\_\_\_\_

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 12:22 PM

Hi Dan,

And all the craziness of the last week I completely forgot that I sent this to you. While I still stand by a good amount of what is stated below here, obviously additional information has a risen in the past several days. If you're not planning to use any of this, that is more than fine, but if you are planning to use any of it, I would appreciate the opportunity to chat with you again and answer specific questions so that the information is caught up to the current situation. I don't plan to comment on much of it, but I also don't want to put in accurate information out into the world. Much like during the meeting, the same below was given to you with the information that I had at the time.

[Quoted text hidden]

Wed, Sep 18, 2024 at 3:09 PM



## Information Request/Executive Session

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Sat, Sep 14, 2024 at 11:50 AM

To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>

Jamie,

First, I sincerely apologize for bringing our private conversation, our phone call, into a public meeting. That was reactionary and not appropriate. I will also make my apology public in our next meeting. In the future I will not discuss personal communication in public. I am very sorry.

Secondly, in response to the notification email, you made a FOIA request at the end of our meeting on 9/11. My response to your request for more information is an invitation to Executive Session on Wednesday, 9/18 @6:00pm at Central Office. As staff members, and I, are worried that making their concerns public opens them up to potential retaliation, I will inform you and the School Committee in Executive Session. I will inform you about the potential increased legal risk to the district based on your actions, and further discuss conduct.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Kate DePrizio Lynnfield School Committee Chair

## Notification of Executive Session Regarding Staff Complaints

5 messages

To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

September 16, 2024

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Dear Mr. Hayman,

I am scheduling a meeting of the Lynnfield School Committee on Monday, September 23 at 7:00 pm in person at Central Office, 525 Salem Street, with Zoom capability. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss complaints against you from staff members. I will schedule discussion of this matter to take place in executive session unless you request that it be held in open session. If you so request, please notify me by the close of business Tuesday, September 17.

Pursuant to M.G.L. c 30A § 21 (a), if the meeting is held in executive session you have the following rights: (1) to be present during deliberations which involve you; (2) to have legal counsel or a representative of your own choosing and expense present and attending for the purpose of advising you and not for the purpose of active participation in the executive session; (3) to speak on your own behalf; and (4) to cause an independent record to be created of the executive session by audio recording or transcription, at you own expense.

Please notify me if you are requesting that the meeting be held in open session rather than executive session. I would appreciate your confirming receipt of this email. Thank you.

Sincerely, Kate DePrizio School Committee Chairperson

Mon, Sep 16, 2024 at 2:06 PM

 Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Mon, Sep

 To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Cc: Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy

 <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

Confirming this message has been received. [Quoted text hidden]

Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

Kate,

At this time I would prefer to keep this discussion in executive session. Should that change, I will let you know.



Mon, Sep 16, 2024 at 1:51 PM

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>Wed, SepTo: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>Cc: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon<dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

Thanks Jamie. Letting you know that I am Chairing this meeting as Kate has recused herself. [Quoted text hidden]

 Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Wed, Sep 18, 2024 at 11:35 AM

 To: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Cc: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon

 <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

[Quoted text hidden]

Wed, Sep 18, 2024 at 10:26 AM



#### Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

#### Statement this evening

1 message

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Tue, Sep 24, 2024 at 3:24 PM To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

All,

Sharing below a brief statement that I am planning to make this evening. Please note while this is a personal statement (not on committee's behalf) I wanted to make you all aware of it as I'll go first since I've been managing this issue the last few days as vice chair. Afterwards, if anyone has anything additional to add, I'd expect there will be an opportunity to do so before public comment.

#### Statement:

Before we begin, I'd like to take a moment to address our last meeting and what's happened since.

I'd like to start by offering an apology to Jamie's family for being unfairly brought into a public discussion. No students should ever have been discussed or brought into what was essentially a notification to a committee member. Personally I'd also like to apologize to Jamie for being put in the position he was in our last meeting; it was unprofessional and I don't expect it will happen again.

Since that meeting, I have met with Jamie and our attorney to further discuss the matter at hand and share additional information. At this time, there will be no further School Committee action in this matter. We have important work to continue, and our goal is to continue to move that forward.

I do want to provide a few facts in reference to this matter. First, I've spoken with our attorney and she has shared that her recommendation may have been misinterpreted around handling this matter. However, she did not recommend or require the step of reading the letter aloud in a public meeting.

Secondly: she confirmed that Supt Geary was correct in bringing forth any concerns w/any committee member to the chair's attention.

This was an unfortunate moment for a committee that is truly trying to cut the noise and focus on bettering our schools and supporting our students. As a group, we are committed to moving forward with the important work of continuing to contribute to academic excellence and the education of all students in our district.

Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 11:13 AM

Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 11:49 AM

## Correct legal correspondence referenced at Sept. 24 SC meeting

5 messages

Dan Tomasello <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com>

To: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <kristen.elworthy@gmail.com> Cc: haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Jamie Hayman <jamiehayman@yahoo.com>, Jenny Sheehan <Jamartin226@gmail.com>, sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>, dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, kate.deprizio@gmail.com

Good morning Kristen and Tom:

LYNNFIELD

I hope this email finds both of you well. I am sending you this email to request that you send me any corresponding emails from attorney Colby Brunt that were referenced at last night's School Committee. I have cc'd the rest of the School Committee so that they are aware of this request.

Thank you for your help with this, I appreciate. I look forward to hearing from you in a timely manner. Take care.

Dan

Kristen Elworthy <kristen.elworthy@gmail.com>

To: Dan Tomasello <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com>

Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Jamie Hayman <jamiehayman@yahoo.com>, Jenny Sheehan <Jamartin226@gmail.com>, sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>, dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, kate.deprizio@gmail.com

Hi Dan - can you provide the specific times that we referenced attorney emails? I don't recall doing so off the top of my head and want to be sure we're getting you the specific emails you're requesting. I'll also need to have her go through the request for attorney client privilege so the narrower it is, the more quickly we'll be able to get those to you. Thanks so much.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Sep 25, 2024, at 11:14 AM, Dan Tomasello <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com> wrote:

> Good morning Kristen and Tom:

[Quoted text hidden]

Dan Tomasello <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com> To: Kristen Elworthy <kristen.elworthy@gmail.com>

Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Jamie Hayman <jamiehayman@yahoo.com>, Jenny Sheehan <Jamartin226@gmail.com>, sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>, dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, kate.deprizio@gmail.com

Hi Kristen:

I don't recall the exact times emails were referenced, but I do remember you describing the legal advice as being "misinterpreted" and "wrong," hence why I reached out.

I am going to begin working on the meeting coverage tonight, and will follow-up with you. I just want to make sure my coverage is accurate as possible, hence why I am making this request.

Thanks for the help as always, I appreciate it. Take care.

Dan [Quoted text hidden]

Kristen Elworthy <kristen.elworthy@gmail.com>

To: Dan Tomasello <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com>

Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Jamie Hayman <jamiehayman@yahoo.com>, Jenny Sheehan <Jamartin226@gmail.com>, sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>,

Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 12:32 PM

Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 12:36 PM



dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, kate.deprizio@gmail.com, elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us

Thanks Dan. I had multiple conversations with the attorney confirming this in order to generate my statement; she did have the opportunity to review the statement as it referred to her. She was fine with the characterization in my statement.

Providing that to you below, I'm pretty sure I read it verbatim in the meeting. I'm also cc'ing my SC email here as I would prefer to reply from that email address so this doesn't get lost. You have my number if you need to do any additional fact checking. Thanks.

Before we begin, I'd like to take a moment to address our last meeting and what's happened since.

I'd like to start by offering an apology to Jamie's family for being unfairly brought into a public discussion. No students should ever have been discussed or brought into what was essentially a notification to a committee member. Personally I'd also like to apologize to Jamie for being put in the position he was in our last meeting; it was unprofessional and I don't expect it will happen again.

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I do want to provide a few facts in reference to this matter. First, I've spoken with our attorney and she has shared that her recommendation may have been misinterpreted around handling this matter. However, she did not recommend or require the step of reading the letter aloud in a public meeting. Secondly: she confirmed that Supt Geary was correct in bringing forth any concerns w/any committee member to the chair's attention.

This was an unfortunate moment for a committee that is truly trying to cut the noise and focus on bettering our schools and supporting our students. As a group, we are committed to moving forward with the important work of continuing to contribute to academic excellence and the education of all students in our district.

Kristen Elworthy

[Quoted text hidden]

Dan Tomasello <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com>

To: Kristen Elworthy <kristen.elworthy@gmail.com>

Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 12:42 PM

Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, Jamie Hayman <jamiehayman@yahoo.com>, Jenny Sheehan <Jamartin226@gmail.com>, sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>, dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, kate.deprizio@gmail.com, elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us

Thank you for the clarification, it was very helpful. I am looking forward to working with you as chair. Take care and I will be in touch if I have any follow-up questions.

Dan [Quoted text hidden]



#### School Committee meeting follow-up

9 messages

Adam Levine <adam@itemlive.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hi Kate,

I called you at 4:35 p.m. today on my work number for some follow-up questions from the school committee meeting on Wednesday, September 11 and the recent police report that came out.

Please call me back before 1:30 p.m. tomorrow to talk. My number is included in my signature below.

Best, Adam Levine

Adam Levine Lynnfield and Peabody Reporter <u>Essex Media</u> Group

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Adam Levine <adam@itemlive.com>

Hi Adam,

Yes, I heard the voicemail. I am at cheer practice right now, I'm a coach.

I will definitely call you before 1:30pm tomorrow. Thank you so much.

Warmly, Kate DePrizio [Quoted text hidden]

Adam Levine <adam@itemlive.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hi Kate,

Thank you for the quick response. I am available starting at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Enjoy cheer practice!

Best, Adam [Quoted text hidden]

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Adam Levine <adam@itemlive.com>

Thank you so much!

[Quoted text hidden]

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Adam Levine <adam@itemlive.com> Mon, Sep 16, 2024 at 4:42 PM

Mon, Sep 16, 2024 at 4:46 PM

Mon, Sep 16, 2024 at 4:51 PM

Mon, Sep 16, 2024 at 4:52 PM

Good morning! I'm not feeling well, could you please send me your questions and I will answer them as soon as possible.

Thanks much!

Warmly, Kate [Quoted text hidden]

Adam Levine <adam@itemlive.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Tue, Sep 17, 2024 at 11:05 AM

Tue, Sep 17, 2024 at 1:19 PM

Hi Kate,

Thank you for the communication. Here are some questions. Please get them back to me by 1:30 p.m. so I can include them in the article.

1. During the meeting on 9/11, you said Jamie Hayman threatened you on multiple occasions. The police narrative stated that he did not threaten you. Do you stand by the claims you made at the school committee meeting?

2. Residents on Facebook and in reports have asked you to resign. Do you plan on resigning?

3. Was there an option to reschedule the meeting not to fall on 9/11, specifically during the town's First Responders event? If so, why did you not reschedule?

4. How do you plan to move forward as the School Committee Chair and address issues within the schools, rather than within the committee itself?

Thank you.

Best, Adam [Quoted text hidden]

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Adam Levine <adam@itemlive.com> Bcc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hi Adam,

Thank you so much for emailing me these questions, I have included my answers below.

Please let me know if need anything else!

Warmly, Kate

On Tue, Sep 17, 2024 at 11:06 AM Adam Levine <adam@itemlive.com> wrote: Hi Kate,

Thank you for the communication. Here are some questions. Please get them back to me by 1:30 p.m. so I can include them in the article.

1. During the meeting on 9/11, you said Jamie Hayman threatened you on multiple occasions. The police narrative stated that he did not threaten you. Do you stand by the claims you made at the school committee meeting? The Lynnfield Police Department is deeming this issue a civil matter not a criminal matter. They are reporting what each party shared with them. That does not pass judgement on the validity of either party's statement, it simply means this issue does not meet the high threshold of a criminal threat. As this issue is not related to the direct business of the Lynnfield School Committee, I will not discuss it in my capacity as School Committee Chair.

2. Residents on Facebook and in reports have asked you to resign. Do you plan on resigning? I serve as Chair at the pleasure of the School Committee. I have acted in good faith on the advice of our School Committee legal counsel, and in an effort to continue to be transparent, as that is a hallmark of this School Committee. Protecting staff and our district from potential increased legal risk is an obligation of my role as School Committee Chair. Representing our district is an absolute honor and privilege, I take great pride in my work and all the improvements that I have helped come to fruition as Chair. Continuing to focus my efforts on rebuilding and inspiring our staff and students toward excellence, while prioritizing every student, every day is my goal.

2. Residents on Facebook and in reports have asked you to resign. Do you plan on resigning?

3. Was there an option to reschedule the meeting not to fall on 9/11, specifically during the town's First Responders event? If so, why did you not reschedule?

Traditionally my family and I attend First Responders Night each year. Expressing our appreciation and gratitude to our First Responders throughout the year, in meaningful ways, is a priority for me and my family. In the committee meeting we took a moment of silence for the victims of 9/11 and expressed our heartfelt gratitude for our First Responders.

The School Committee meeting schedule was amended on 8/22, to include an Executive Session on 9/10 and a regular School Committee meeting on 9/11. Member availability, Superintendent availability, School Committee Counsel availability, and location availability all were key factors that had to be taken into consideration, to manage our meeting schedule.

4. How do you plan to move forward as the School Committee Chair and address issues within the schools, rather than within the committee itself?

It was not appropriate for me to bring a private conversation into our public committee meeting. I have apologized to Mr. Hayman, the Superintendent, my fellow committee members, and I will not make that mistake in the future. That said, I will no longer discuss civil issues in my capacity as Chair of the School Committee.

The School Committee process of addressing the complaint issues dealt with at our 9/11 meeting is still ongoing. I respectfully ask for the community's patience as the committee continues to address these issues. The Committee looks forward to continuing our efforts to inspire excellence in teaching and learning for our students and staff. We continue to support our staff to ensure that they can provide our students with an exemplary education.

[Quoted text hidden]

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Tue, Sep 17, 2024 at 1:50 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

**Kate Deprizio** <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>

[Quoted text hidden]

Tue, Sep 17, 2024 at 1:50 PM



## 2024-2025 Wellness Committee

2 messages

Mia Muzio <muziom@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Fri, Sep 6, 2024 at 11:18 AM k12.ma.us>, Marc Pifko

To: Christine Sheils <sheilsc@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James McCarthy <mccarthyjam@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Marc Pifko <mpif@comcast.net>, Suzy Depalma <depalmas@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, "Mccarthy, Caitlin" <mccarthyc@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Toni-ann Rebelo <rebelot@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Diana Deleo <deleod@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Ella Hayman <haymane25@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Risa Ferrara <ferrara@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, "depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us" <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Mia Muzio <muziom@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Heatha Schena <schenah@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Beth Gasinowski <gasinowskib@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hello everyone,

I hope that you are all doing well and had a great summer! I am taking over as the Wellness Committee Chair this year. If anyone would be interested in being a co-chair, please let me know, I welcome all help! I have started a google folder where all of the Wellness Committee information will be located moving forward. I will include that below!

I am looking at the following dates for meetings: October 22nd December 17th March 11th May 20th

Please let me know if any of these dates do not work for you and I will make some changes.

Wellness Committee

Looking forward to working with you all this year!

Mia Muzio Director of Athletics K-12 Physical Education, Health and Wellness Coordinator Lynnfield Public Schools muziom@lynnfield.k12.ma.us 781-334-5820 ext. 1111



Mia Muzio <muziom@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Thu, Oct 17, 2024 at 10:38 AM

To: Christine Sheils <sheilsc@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James McCarthy <mccarthyjam@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Marc Pifko <mpif@comcast.net>, Suzy Depalma <depalmas@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, "Mccarthy, Caitlin" <mccarthyc@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Toni-ann Rebelo <rebelot@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Diana Deleo <deleod@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Ella Hayman <haymane25@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Risa Ferrara <ferrara@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, "depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us" <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Mia Muzio <muziom@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Heatha Schena <schenah@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Beth Gasinowski <gasinowskib@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hello everyone,

I hope that you are all doing well! I am going to push the first wellness committee meeting to November. I will get you a date asap. We are going to do some restructuring as well as some additions to those that will serve on the committee in order to make this the most efficient and effective use of everyone's time. I will reach out to everyone individually to make you aware of the changes.

Thank you!! [Quoted text hidden] --Regards, Mia Muzio



# Document shared with you: "School Committee-Superintendent Operating Protocols"

1 message

**Kate Deprizio (via Google Docs)** <drive-shares-dm-noreply@google.com> Reply-To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us Mon, Sep 9, 2024 at 7:19 PM

Kate Deprizio shared a document
Kate Deprizio (depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us) has invited you to <b>view</b> the following document:
School Committee-Superintendent Operating Protocols
Open

Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA You have received this email because depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us shared a document with you from Google Docs.

Google Workspace



## Document shared with you: "Superintendent Notes - September 11, 2024"

1 message

 Thomas Geary (via Google Docs) <drive-shares-dm-noreply@google.com>
 Sun, Sep 8, 2024 at 9:18 PM

 Reply-To: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 To: depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us

 To: depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us
 C: dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us

# Thomas Geary shared a document



Thomas Geary (gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us) has invited you to **edit** the following document:

Hi All,

I'm sharing the Notes ahead of the meeting on Wednesday night. There are links to our School Improvement Plan document and slides presentation. As you look at the plan for each level (SSS and HHS are the same), we decided it would be most effective to tie the action items at each level to my curriculum and citizenship goals, as these are areas that have been identified as priorities for the year. The plan and presentation will reflect this structure. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions as there are various action items listed.

The School Committee communication plan and protocols agenda items with be discussed with Colby on Tuesday night, so there will be more information then regarding those items.

As we mentioned previously, in order to have open lines of communication with staff and the community, we will be holding open sessions at each school for staff (October and March), and we will also have four community sessions throughout the year. All sessions will have two SC members attending, and I will be at some as well. The session dates are linked in the SC Communication Plan agenda item.

Feel free to reach out if you'd like to discuss anything.

	Thanks,
	Tom
📑 Si	uperintendent Notes - September 11, 2024
Ope	n

Google LLC, 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA You have received this email because gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us shared a document with you from Google Docs.

Google Workspace



## Fwd: Letter to Jamie and RIch.docx

1 message

Kate Deprizio <kate.deprizio@gmail.com> To: depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us Mon, Oct 28, 2024 at 8:57 PM

------ Forwarded message ------From: **Tim Doyle** <timothy@colonna-doyle.com> Date: Wed, Aug 28, 2024 at 9:28 AM Subject: Letter to Jamie and RIch.docx To: kate.deprizio@gmail.com <kate.deprizio@gmail.com>

Letter to Jamie and Rich.docx
 14K



## **Fwd: LPS School Committee**

1 message

**Kristen Elworthy** <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Tue, Oct 15, 2024 at 4:31 PM To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

All,

#### Please do not reply all to this email due to OML.

Sharing the below letter in the interest of filling you in on this issue. Jamie has requested that this letter be read in our 10/16 meeting. I am suggesting this be handled in Executive Session; I've confirmed it falls under Exception 1, and then to bring it to the public meeting on 10/22 when we have had a chance to further discuss as a committee.

Tom is looped in, as is Colby (and Jamie obviously). Jamie is insisting on speaking by phone rather than via email, but does not want to speak with me without Colby on the line, so we are currently awaiting a time from her to speak tomorrow morning. After that, I'll provide a further update on next steps.

Feel free to call or email me directly with questions.

----- Forwarded message ------

From:

Date: Fri, Oct 11, 2024 at 9:40 PM Subject: LPS School Committee To: Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>, Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <GEARYT@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

The purpose of this email is to provide information pertaining to the letter sent by Ms. DePrizio to Mr. Hayman on September 11<sup>th</sup>. On Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> I received a call from Ms. DePrizo notifying me

of a letter she intended to read into the record at the September 11<sup>th</sup> School Committee meeting. The letter insinuated that Mr. Hayman had inappropriate communications with members of the high school staff including myself. After reading the letter, I and another staff member requested to meet with Ms. DePrizo and Mr. Geary. During that meeting, we stated that we disagreed with her characterization of the events. At no time had either of us brought forward a concern or complaint to Ms. DePrizo about interactions with Mr. Hayman.

To be very clear, Mr. Hayman never made me feel uncomfortable or as though he was requesting preferential treatment. I never made a complaint or voiced a concern to anyone about my interactions with Mr. Hayman.

I am happy to discuss this in further detail if required.



#### **Fwd: Positioning**

1 message

Kate Deprizio <kate.deprizio@gmail.com> To: depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us Mon, Oct 28, 2024 at 8:55 PM

------ Forwarded message ------From: **Kristen Elworthy** <kristen@sevenhillscommunications.com> Date: Mon, Sep 9, 2024 at 7:20 PM Subject: Positioning To: Kate Deprizio <kate.deprizio@gmail.com>

Here's what I am thinking, obviously feel free to scrap any of this since you're the one who has to deliver the news.

- Over the past several months, it's come to our attention that one of our Committee members is in violation of our ethical standards in terms of using our roles on the SC for personal gain (too much?) OR has been in violation of our ethical guidelines as a committee.
- This puts our committee at risk from a credibility standpoint, and has the potential for legal risk to the district. As such,

I'd like to preface this by adding that I have also spoken to Mr. Hayman and made the other members of the committee aware of this step based on our operating protocols.

- Our attorney
   The Committee has received a set of suggested operating protocols to review and provide comment on prior to this meeting.
   Our goal here is to eliminate any distractions so that the Committee can operate as a team and focus our time on
- Our goal nere is to eliminate any distractions so that the Committee can operate as a team and focus our time on serving our students and district. It is of the utmost importance that Committee members, members of the public, parents, and staff are all on the same page about our role in the district – much of which is highlighted in these protocols.

Something like that? Are we reading the protocols aloud before voting? At some point you'll want ot throw it to other members of the committee as well.

Kristen Elworthy



#### Fwd: PREDS

1 message

Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Fri, Oct 11, 2024 at 9:23 AM k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

To: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>

Hi Folks,

One of the issues that was brought up at the September 11th meeting is a previous instance where I was warned about undermining the committee, by the chair. I truly had no idea what that was in reference to, but after some digging, I figured it out and in the spirit of transparency, I think you all deserve to know what the issue was. The email exchange below is from six years ago when, as part of the FY '19 budget process, we had to cancel the PREDS program (preschool before school care) due to space limitations. This was the first domino that ultimately led to the School Expansion Project. Tim and Jane (Tremblay) did not like that I was talking with parents about the issue, nor did Tim like that I was holding open hours to make myself available for discussions. They believed that all conversations about school related issues should be held by the Chair and/or Superintendent, and they felt that even a conversation would be in violation of that practice. A few details that also need to be shared:

- Two-and-half months after this, Tim nominated me for Chair
- Rich responded separately, it was addressed separately, I did speak with Rich regarding sharing this
  email
- None of this was public because we handled it like grown ups, with email and a conversation

Let me know if you have any questions. Have a great weekend.

Regards,

Jamie

PS- I redacted the parent's name in the emails below out of respect for their confidentiality

------ Forwarded message ------From: Jamie Hayman <jamiehayman@yahoo.com> Date: Thu, Feb 1, 2018 at 6:28 PM Subject: Re: PREDS To: Dorothy Presser <dorothypresser@hotmail.com>, Salvatore Cammarata <scammarata@generationsinc.org>, Rich Sjoberg <NSA1@earthlink.net>, Dorothy Presser <presserd@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, cammarata@glynnfield.k12.ma.us <cammaratas@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Tim Doyle <timothy@colonna-doyle.com> Cc: Tremblay, Jane <tremblayja@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

#### Dear Tim-

I take significant offense to your email, calling my integrity into question and I categorically deny your statement that I am violating our operating protocols and undermining the school committee. Here are the facts regarding my interactions with parents regarding the PREDS situation:

• I have spoken to many parents about the PREDS issue. If you would like names and times of conversations, I am happy to provide them.

• I have interacted with Jane about the PREDS program and have asked if there was any way to save the program. I have also made the statement that if there is a way to do so, even for a year,

we should try to do so.

- In EVERY conversation I have had I have stated very clearly that I don't believe there is a way to save PREDS, but if there is I would support it.
- I do empathize with these parents about the situation.
- I do believe we could have handled this better, but I also believe that at the end of the day if we don't have the space we don't have the space.
- I have NEVER promised or insinuated that I would do anything other than inquire about whether there were additional options.
- I did suggest that NAME REDACTED try to meet with Jane prior to the next SC meeting so as not to have this be an issue for public comment at the next meeting. I have text messages that refer NAME REDACTED to Dianne Borsetti, including her phone number, to be able to schedule a meeting with Jane.
- I have been a champion for LPS and am very quick to point out that it is because of Jane's visions and leadership, and this situation is no different.
- Regarding the informal open hour tonight, I do not have an agenda, I will be happy to talk to parents, I will not make promises, and I do not apologize for making myself available.

Those are the facts. I do not apologize for talking to parents, nor will I discontinue the practice as I believe that is an elected official's responsibility to be willing to listen. I think there are those on the committee who forget this fact some times.

For the last four years I have worked tirelessly to push LPS forward, have listened to parents and defended decisions this committee has made, even when I haven't necessarily agreed with them.

I resent your accusations and you calling my character into question, and am disappointed you did not have the professional courtesy to pick up of the phone and ask questions...instead you just jumped to significant assumptions.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Jamie

On Thursday, February 1, 2018, 4:49:01 PM EST, Tim Doyle <timothy@colonna-doyle.com> wrote:

Dear Jamie and Rich,

As you are well aware the PREDS matter continues to be discussed among the families directly or indirectly impacted by the termination of the program. On January 26, 2018 I was contacted by NAME REDACTED, via Facebook, for an explanation as to how the school department arrived at its decision to eliminate the program to accommodate the additional first grade class. I provided NAME REDACTED with the requested information, provided the superintendent with a copy of my response and asked NAME REDACTED to call my cell phone after 4:30 if she would like to discuss the issue in greater detail. Whereas there was no phone call, I didn't pursue the matter any further.

It has come to my attention, based on copies of emails attached hereto, that NAME REDACTED sought out other school committee members and a member(s) of the board of selectmen to seek additional information and/or to gather support to put "pressure" on the superintendent to preserve the program. I have spoken with Sal and Dorothy and they have confirmed the content of NAME REDACTED's email dated January 30, 2018 which indicated that "the other three have been mute". While the characterization that we have been mute isn't entirely accurate, I have greater concerns about the content which indicates there were representations made by the two of you, unbeknownst to the superintendent and the three of us. We need to know what representations and promises were made. Understanding and knowing the content of these discussions will enable the three of us and the superintendent to protect our reputations and more importantly the credibility of this committee and the school department should this matter come before us at a future meeting.

I am also concerned that your communications with this group seem to lay out a strategy to "pressure" this committee and the superintendent into responding in accordance to their timeline and under their terms.

As you are aware we all signed operating protocols in the summer which outline our duties to one another and the superintendent. Our obligations include, but are not limited to: "no independent commitments or take any independent actions that may compromise the School Committee as a whole; respect the leadership roles of the School Committee Chair and Superintendent; refer constituent concerns and complaints to the appropriate person within the district chain of communication".

Your actions regarding this matter have undoubtedly breached and compromised our operating protocols and you have undermined the trust of Dorothy, Sal and myself. Additionally, you have undercut the superintendent's authority to make decisions in the best interests of the district. If our intent is to move this district forward, none of us can afford to engage in this type of behavior.

Finally I see that Jamie intends to hold an informal meeting at Capitol One this evening. Whereas the meeting scheduled on the heels of this event, I am going to make the assumption that the intent of this meeting is to engage in further discussions of this matter. I believe this represents another instance where your actions subvert this committee and the superintendent.

You need to know while your intentions may be altruistic (I truly believe they are), you are damaging this committee and the school district.

Tim

Thank you.

Timothy J. Doyle, Esquire

26 Main Street

Lynnfield, MA 01940

Law Office of Colonna and Doyle



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#### Information Request/Executive Session

1 message

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Sat, Sep 14, 2024 at 11:50 AM

To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>

Jamie,

First, I sincerely apologize for bringing our private conversation, our phone call, into a public meeting. That was reactionary and not appropriate. I will also make my apology public in our next meeting. In the future I will not discuss personal communication in public. I am very sorry.

Secondly, in response to the notification email, you made a FOIA request at the end of our meeting on 9/11. My response to your request for more information is an invitation to Executive Session on Wednesday, 9/18 @6:00pm at Central Office. As staff members, and I, are worried that making their concerns public opens them up to potential retaliation, I will inform you and the School Committee in Executive Session. I will inform you about the potential increased legal risk to the district based on your actions, and further discuss conduct.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Kate DePrizio Lynnfield School Committee Chair



#### Last Night's Meeting

2 messages

Jim Crawford <jim@aadority.com>

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 11:41 AM

To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>, Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Robert Dolan <rdolan@town.lynnfield.ma.us>, elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us

Hello Ms. DePrizio,

Like many in town, I'm concerned with what took place at your meeting last night and the repeated disregard Mr. Hayman has for the rules. I'm sorry that you and your children were threatened, no public official should have to put up with that. As you may recall last Fall when I was speaking out against the prior board and Superintendent, Mr. Hayman threatened to go after my father for an ethics violation in response to emails I had been sending to the board. There is a pattern of vindictive and petty behavior that should not be tolerated from an elected official.

I no longer believe Mr. Hayman is acting in good faith on this board or that he has any interest in advancing the schools, he seems intent on focusing on personal vendettas and currying favor for his own children. As I have multiple times before, I will again ask the Mr. Hayman steps down from the board. He stated at last night's meeting he's been "busting his ass" on the this committee for the last 10 years. I would like to remind him he oversaw the hiring of the worst Superintendent Lynnfield has ever had and gave her the worst contract raise/extension in Massachusetts history. Teacher morale was at an all-time low and many former great teachers and staff either left or retired early because they were sick of the nonsense with the prior board. If that's "busting your ass", I would ask him to please stop.

As you may also recall from last Fall I sent the below code to the former chair of the board and reminded him of his obligation as chair, he chose not to acknowledge my email in any way. Mr. Hayman's behavior was not only swept under the rug with the old board but allowed to thrive. I'm glad to see this board is taking it more seriously.

As chair you have the following responsibility per the Lynnfield Code of Ethics dated May 6, 2013, *The Lynnfield Code of Ethics expresses standards of ethical conduct expected for all Public Officials. Officials themselves have the primary*  responsibility to assure that ethical standards are understood and met, and that the public can continue to have full confidence in the integrity of government. The chairs of boards, committees and commissions have the additional responsibility to intervene when actions that appear to be in violation of the Code of Ethics are brought to their attention.

Under the same code Mr. Hayman and all members have the following responsibility...

The professional and personal conduct of officials must be above reproach and avoid even the appearance of impropriety. Officials shall refrain from abusive conduct, personal charges or verbal attacks upon the character or motives of other officials, the staff or public.

As Mr. Hayman's actions are a clear and gross violation of this policy, please accept this a formal request that you as the chair require additional ethics training for Mr. Hayman so that this kind of behavior does not continue and residents and staff aren't discouraged from voicing their concerns.

Thank you

Jim

James M. Crawford A.A. Dority Company, Inc. 226 Lowell Street, Suite B-4 Wilmington, MA 01887

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Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 1:15 PM

 Kate Deprizio
 Capital
 Composition
 Composition

<rdolan@town.lynnfield.ma.us>, elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Jim,

Thank you for reaching out to the School Committee and sharing your concerns and request regarding Mr. Hayman's conduct.

First, I sincerely appreciate your acknowledgement and condemnation of the threats made to me and my family. This kind of conduct, by anyone, much less a School Committee member who is held to a higher standard, is not acceptable ever. Sincerely, parent to parent, that means a great deal to me and my family.

I recognize that you have previously sent numerous emails to the former committee regarding Mr. Hayman's conduct, and I take your email today very seriously. That said, as I am still fairly new to this position, I do not have a copy or access to the complete Lynnfield Code of Ethics established in 2013. I have reached out to our Town Clerk, Amanda, to access a copy. Once I receive it, I will review it and will get back to you regarding any potential next steps. I appreciate your patience with the request made here, as I learn more.

If you wish to speak further, I've included my number below.

Wishing you and your family a beautiful afternoon!

Warmly, Kate DePrizio <u>Lynnfield Sch</u>ool Committee Chair

[Quoted text hidden]



#### Meeting times

4 messages

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

Good morning, Colby!

Does Monday anytime after 2:30pm or Wednesday at 11:00 or 12:00pm work for you?

Looking forward to hearing back from you!

Warmly, Kate DePrizio

Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hi Kate, can we do Monday at 2:30? Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2024, at 9:41 AM, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> wrote:

Good morning, Colby! [Quoted text hidden]

This email has been scanned for spam & viruses. If you believe this email should have been stopped by our filters, click here to report it.

**Kate Deprizio** <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

Actually can we make it 2:45? A meeting finishes at 2:30, gives us a sec to get to Central Office!

Also for 9/10, I have a member asking to start at 5:30pm instead of 5:00pm, they have a conflict. Hoping this can work for you!

Thanks so much!

Warmly, Kate [Quoted text hidden]

**Colby Brunt** <CBrunt@scmllp.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Both of those time changes are fine with me. Thanks. Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2024, at 10:20 AM, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> wrote:

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 9:43 AM

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 10:16 AM

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 10:22 AM

Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 10:22 AM

[Quoted text hidden]



## **Protocols Executive Session**

1 message

 Kate Deprizio
 Mon, Sep 9, 2024 at 7:20 PM

 To: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jamie Hayman

 <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>,

 Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Hey Team!

Please do not \*reply all\* out of deference to OML.

I have invited you all to be viewers of the proposed School Committee protocols. Please review these and be prepared to share any questions or concerns in our executive session tomorrow, 9/10 @5:30pm. We will vote on these protocols in our next regular School Committee meeting, Wednesday, 9/11 @6:00pm.

These protocols have been recommended and drafted, in part, by Colby. After Colby sent them to me, Kristen and I made additional edits which have been reviewed by Tom. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to discussing this fully with all of you tomorrow.

Wishing you all a gentle evening!

Warmly, Kate

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-m6\_nRMVurMGpuoDy80BibBCx6HzM7OUgfS\_qWX7NpQ/edit



Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:50 PM

# Re: My statement

7 messages

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:46 PM To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Cc: James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>

Jamie,

Adding Kate and Tom for full disclosure. As you well know, I believe this version of events leaves out some very pertinent facts. Beyond that, posting this on your FB page (which is what I assume you mean by "releasing" it) is a violation of our agreement to maintain a single facebook page.

On Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 2:26 PM Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> wrote: Thanks for the email regarding tonight's agenda, Kristen.

I too would like to move forward. As you are aware I have been working feverishly for the last six weeks to gather more and more information, as I was the one who sat up there and was slandered. I appreciate that this committee simply wanted to move on rather than understand what is real and what is not, but I needed to know more. With that in mind and as a courtesy to all of you, attached is a statement that I will be releasing this afternoon with the hope of moving forward.

Kristen, as you have been privy to most, if not all of this, I think you will agree that everything in this statement is factual and no identities are compromised. For Jenny and Jim's sake, everything here has documentation to back it up.

My two goals have always been to get an apology and to clear my name of requesting preferential treatment, for my sake and for that of my family. I have acknowledged to Kristen that with regards to the apology, I thought her apology was genuine and I do believe her when she said it made her uncomfortable to read that letter out loud, but she thought it had to be done that way per the attorney as that is what Kate had told her. To my second goal, I have gathered enough information that I feel comfortable sharing with the public so there are no questions.

I am happy to speak with any of you about this. I will be heading to a 4:00 soccer game in Amesbury, so will be limited right up to the meeting, but can respond via text if you wish.

See you all this evening.

Jamie

Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

To: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>

Kristen, I am not sure what pertinent facts you are referring to. As for maintaining a single facebook page, that is fine for information and notices. I did not agree to give up my first amendment rights.

#### **Kristen Elworthy** <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Tue, Oct 22, 2024 at 11:11 PM

Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>

Please remove my name from your statement. That statement wasn't finalized, and it wasn't read for a reason. I take a real issue with you adding my name and sharing DRAFT information in a formalized statement. Feel free to use your own.

[Quoted text hidden]

 Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 9:23 AM

 To: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon

 <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>

Hi Kristen,

With all due respect, I thought your statement last night was intended to put an end to this and move us forward. Since that is not the case, are you denying that you wrote that description of the two incidents and that we agreed to it? I didn't include anything that we couldn't come to an agreement about.

Additionally, I want to point out that again, you brought my kids into the discussion last night and you stated incorrectly that I requested they not have a particular teacher. That didn't happen. There is a constant rush to judgment, and all I have been asking for is for everyone to care enough to look for the truth. Kristen last week you texted me and said, "But in the end I want to stick to facts." You didn't state facts last night.

Finally, since everyone is on this email, I want to make something perfectly clear. It is NEVER ok to share someone else's medical information, and especially in a public forum. Kate, I thought that was general knowledge, but clearly it's not so let me be explicit here, under no circumstances does anyone on this email have permission to talk about my health in public.

I was ready and committed to moving forward, I hope you are too.

-Jamie [Quoted text hidden]

 Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 9:57 AM

 To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon

 <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>

Jamie,

I'm fine with you keeping the statement. I won't object to the actual text - it's factual though not complete, as you know it was greatly softened in order to create a statement we could both sign off on. I fully acknowledged that last night when I spoke. Remember how I'm "fair and transparent"? I am bringing up the statement late last night after the meeting instead of prior to the meeting last night b/c I was handling a major work issue walking into that meeting and only had time for so much.

As you ALSO know, the reason that statement did not move forward is because I refused to vouch for you. You have now broken your word to me multiple times. But on a practical level, no, a statement that is not finalized by both parties is not a statement you can put another person's name to. I would never have read out that statement in a meeting and said, "Jamie and I agreed on it," because we did not. If you'd like to say something, say it and stand by it on your own.

The difference between you and I is the fact that my reaction to a mistake is to take personal responsibility and then set out to fix it, and your reaction is to say the rules don't apply to you. I have no interest in having my name associated with a statement like that, particularly after the person making it has accused me of blackmailing them and broken their word to me, now multiple times. I'd ask that you leave the statement as is - have a party, send it around the world, say whatever you'd like to about yourself - but remove my name immediately.

I disagree your children were brought into this - I think it was QUITE clear this was about YOUR actions and also I read very clearly and in full the email from staff absolving you of any issues. I don't know what your problem is, to be honest - you got exactly what you wanted when I did in fact read her email into the record. There is no way to talk about this without giving the facts involved, including the issues in the letter, which I agree and said publicly, "the punishment didn't fit the crime." Just because you decide there is no issue, does not mean there is no issue.

However, I completely respect the idea that rehashing this discussion is not great territory, as I've said multiple times to you. I have given you MULTIPLE options to work together so that we were able to put this behind us but also provide enough context for you to be comfortable and to answer public questions, and you chose to reject each and every one of them. My first option was that we do not discuss this at all, but last week you insisted we read the staff letter into the record. My second option was an executive session with a follow up in a public meeting. You rejected that. I offered to read the letter into the record with context, you did not want that. I offered a statement, as we've discussed, but you wanted it pushed to a point that was not comfortable with, and when I refused, you took it off the table.

You then put out a statement yesterday that contained the letter from staff after I told you very clearly that if that letter was publicized, that's fine, but I would ensure there was full context around it as I have a real issue setting the precedent that you did with your approach of the staff member. I'm not sure what exactly you expect - unlike you, I keep my word. Regardless of what I planned to say last night, your choice in posting the information you did necessitated that I provide full context, not cherry picking of information and flip comments about why rules, apparently, do not apply to you.

I'm asking for my name to be removed from your statement immediately. Seems like a simple enough thing to do if you think you have the credibility to stand by your own words.

[Quoted text hidden]

Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 3:22 PM

To: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>

Hi Kristen,

From the very first day this happened, no one on this committee has shown any interest in finding out the truth or for that matter even asked me if this was true. You all just assumed that Kate was telling the truth.

You don't like the way I am handling this situation. I am doing everything I can to clear my name. The issue is, you don't seem to believe me when I say I haven't ever used my position to seek preferential treatment for my children. You didn't even seem to believe Christina when she spoke last night to clarify your statement. Why on earth do you think we would be lying about this?

You don't know me and you certainly don't get to judge me. You keep talking about the truth, but the truth is you have shown no interest in finding the truth. I have kept asking for this committee to look for the facts about what really happened, but everyone has been too bothered to even try. These are serious and unfounded claims, but no one has even gone so far as to try to verify them. Even our attorney has been left in the dark.

At this point though I don't have the time to go back and forth with you, and I don't have any faith in this committee to show the least bit of integrity and look for the truth.

So, to move us forward, I have removed you name from the statement.

# Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <cbrunt@scmllp.com>

Thank you.

[Quoted text hidden]

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 3:30 PM



# **Resignation as Chair**

1 message

 Kate Deprizio
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Please see my attached statement regarding my resignation as Chair.

Kind Regards, Kate

DePrizio-Statement091924docx.docx
 16K



### **Response to Paper**

3 messages

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Mon, Sep 30, 2024 at 7:26 PM

Kristen,

Adam Levine is writing an article and asked for my statement regarding the recall. I wanted to let you know, and that I will be posting this on Facebook as well. I have also shared this with Tom.

Please let me know if you wish to talk.

Warmly,

Kate

Response-0930 DePrizio.docx W 27K

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Mon, Sep 30, 2024 at 7:58 PM

thanks Kate, I'm going to forward this to the rest of the committee so they are informed. [Quoted text hidden]

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Mon, Sep 30, 2024 at 7:59 PM To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

All, forwarding this from Kate (she and	Tom are cc'd, Tom already has this.)
[Quoted text hidden]	

Response-0930 DePrizio.docx W 27K



# **Staff Communication Concerns**

5 messages

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Wed, Sep 11, 2024 at 8:44 AM

Bcc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Jamie,

I am writing regarding multiple concerns that have been brought to my attention as Chair of the School Committee. I have discussed these issues with our counsel and Attorney Brunt advised me to send this email to you.

The issues brought to my attention regard your communication with the Administrators, Principals, Athletic Department, Curriculum Department and teachers. I discussed these issues with our counsel and Attorney Brunt advised me to remind you that while you absolutely may speak to teachers and staff members about issues pertaining to your child; you need to be cognizant of the fact that you are a School Committee member and any perceived favoritism that may be inferred by a staff member due to your position or requests made through your communications. It is important for School Committee members to recognize that requests for academic placement or request for preferential treatment in athletics or extracurricular activities are not allowed and may by perceived as an abuse of power or potential ethics violation.

I have also become aware of the fact that you have been in regular communication with staff and community members about official School Committee business in a manner that may be perceived as undermining and subverting the authority of the School Committee, School Committee Chair and Superintendent. As you are aware, last year we all signed the School Committee operating protocols that specifically stated with respect to communications by members:

Recognize that authority rests only with majority decisions of the School Committee and wi *ll make no independent commitments or take any independent actions that may compromise the School Committee as a whole.* 

As such, the expectation is that all members will be mindful of any independent statements regarding School Committee business to staff and community members that may compromise the actions and authority of the Committee. Furthermore, I think it is important that members share with the rest of the Committee, at a minimum the School Committee Chair and Superintendent, any communications that they may have had regarding official Committee business in the interest of full transparency, adhering to appropriate communication channels, and our work as a collective board.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Kate DePrizio Lynnfield School Committee Chair

**Kate Deprizio** <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Annmarie Mccormick <mccormickan@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 10:45 AM

Here is the letter **sector and that I** sent to Mr. Hayman. Please let me know if you need anything else!

Warmly, Kate [Quoted text hidden]

Annmarie Mccormick <mccormickan@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 10:47 AM

Thank you Kate.

Take care.

Best Regards,

Annmarie McCormick

Executive Assistant



LPS Website

LPS Google Maps

[Quoted text hidden]

**Kate Deprizio** <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Annmarie Mccormick <mccormickan@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 10:56 AM

Annmarie,

If the press or community asks for this letter please instruct them to ask me. They press has my contact information. It was not sent by nor involves the Superintendent and should be left under the purview of the committee to address directly.

Much appreciated!

Warmly, Kate [Quoted text hidden]

**Annmarie Mccormick** <mccormickan@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 11:01 AM

Hi Kate,

Thank you for the information. I will not share it with the press and I will instruct them to ask you.

Best Regards,

Annmarie McCormick

**Executive Assistant** 



**LYNNFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS** 525 Salem Street Lynnfield, MA 01940 Phone (781) 334-9202 Fax (781) 581-5231

LPS Website

LPS Google Maps

[Quoted text hidden]



# **Staff Concern Notification to School Committee Member**

5 messages

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 11:04 AM

To: lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <jdillon755270@gmail.com>, Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

Dan,

Morning! Hope this finds you recovering and feeling well.

Tom let me know that you contacted him for the letter that I read into record last night, as it is not under his purview, I am sending it to you. If you have any questions, as always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Wishing you a lovely day!

Warmly, Kate

Jamie,

I am writing regarding multiple concerns that have been brought to my attention as Chair of the School Committee. I have discussed these issues with our counsel and Attorney Brunt advised me to send this email to you.

The issues brought to my attention regard your communication with the Administrators, Principals, Athletic Department, Curriculum Department and teachers. I discussed these issues with our counsel and Attorney Brunt advised me to remind you that while you absolutely may speak to teachers and staff members about issues pertaining to your child; you need to be cognizant of the fact that you are a School Committee member and any perceived favoritism that may be inferred by a staff member due to your position or requests made through your communications. It is important for School Committee members to recognize that requests for academic placement or request for preferential treatment in athletics or extracurricular activities are not allowed and may by perceived as an abuse of power or potential ethics violation.

I have also become aware of the fact that you have been in regular communication with staff and community members about official School Committee business in a manner that may be perceived as undermining and subverting the authority of the School Committee, School Committee Chair and Superintendent. As you are aware, last year we all signed the School Committee operating protocols that specifically stated with respect to communications by members:

Recognize that authority rests only with majority decisions of the School Committee and wi *ll make no independent commitments or take any independent actions that may compromise the School Committee as a whole.* 

As such, the expectation is that all members will be mindful of any independent statements regarding School Committee business to staff and community members that may compromise the actions and authority of the Committee. Furthermore, I think it is important that members share with the rest of the Committee, at a minimum the School Committee Chair and Superintendent, any communications that they may have had regarding official Committee business in the interest of full transparency, adhering to appropriate communication channels, and our work as a collective board.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Kate DePrizio Lynnfield School Committee Chair

**Dan Tomasello** <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 11:12 AM

Hi Kate:

Thanks for sending me the letter, I appreciate it. I haven't watched the meeting yet as it hasn't been posted to Vimeo and I was covering First Responders Day last night. I will let you know if I have any questions for you, but I have been buried this week because I have been filling in for my boss, have two events to cover plus I had to cover the strip mall fire.

Also, did anyone take any pictures of the Dorothy Presser Award winners that can be sent to me?

I am feeling a lot better and I actually feel like myself again. I think remission is my new favorite word!

Thanks for the help as always, I appreciate it. Take care.

Dan [Quoted text hidden]

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

FYI

------ Forwarded message ------From: **Kristen Elworthy** <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Date: Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 12:19 PM Subject: Fwd: Staff Concern Notification to School Committee Member To: <lynnfieldnews@wakefielditem.com>

Good morning Dan,

Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 12:19 PM

Given this request, I assume you plan to write about last night's meeting. I hope you will consider including commentary from members as opposed to solely quoting from the meeting itself. I'm offering mine below, but I do invite you to call me at any time for anything further, you have my number and I'm sure other members would be open to offering their thoughts on this. I will preface this by adding that I do not have any further information on what happened with Jamie than the letter below but I can comment on the following on the conduct in last night's meeting as well as ongoing issues. I recognize it is long but hopefully is helpful for context.

---

Last night's School Committee meeting was not an easy one for any of us. Kate was in the unenviable position of having to execute a procedure driven by our attorney to notify a member of a protocol/ethics violation. Putting aside the content of the letter at this time, Jamie's conduct during the meeting was unacceptable and in violation of our ethical standards as a public board. Calling other members and our superintendent liars in a public meeting with no basis or grounds is damaging to the School Committee and our district as a whole. Raising your voice to yell at a member is never acceptable. While he has every right to comment on and voice his objections to the letter with which he was presented, and I fully empathize that it was a difficult and emotional situation, it never should have gotten to the point of him treating Kate, Tom - or frankly the rest of the committee - in the way that he did.

While each of us are entitled to voice our opinion throughout our public meetings, Jamie has consistently demonstrated that his intent is to undermine our school committee - particularly our Chair and Superintendent Geary. One example of that crystallized last night, when Jamie admitted calling the Attorney General prior to an executive session (one that was attended by our lawyer) to see if it would be in violation of Open Meeting Law. A member who wanted to contribute to the integrity of the Committee would have first brought that concern to the Superintendent and Chair - not looked to create an ethics violation with the AG. The goal should have been to ensure we were in compliance (which we were) and if not, to do anything in his power to make sure that we got back on track prior to meeting.

Regardless of Jamie's personal feelings on Supt. Geary's hire, which he has made repeatedly and abundantly clear via public meeting and on social media, the fact is that a majority of our committee decided to hire him as Superintendent. Our ultimate job as a committee is to ensure the success of our district and our students. This means that we work to promote the success of our Superintendent - his success is our success, and the ENTIRE town's success. Meeting after meeting, Jamie has attempted to undermine Supt Geary's decision-making and authority, demonstrating clearly that he is not interested in collaborating but rather is playing some kind of "gotcha" game. By consistently undermining the authority of the School Committee and the Superintendent, Jamie is, in my opinion, not aligned with his very important duty as a School Committee member.

[Quoted text hidden]

Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>

[Quoted text hidden]

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Thu, Sep 12, 2024 at 12:22 PM

Wed, Sep 18, 2024 at 3:09 PM

Hi Dan,

And all the craziness of the last week I completely forgot that I sent this to you. While I still stand by a good amount of what is stated below here, obviously additional information has a risen in the past several days. If you're not planning to use any of this, that is more than fine, but if you are planning to use any of it, I would appreciate the opportunity to chat with you again and answer specific questions so that the information is caught up to the current situation. I don't plan to comment on much of it, but I also don't want to put in accurate information out into the world. Much like during the meeting, the same below was given to you with the information that I had at the time. [Quoted text hidden]



## **Staff Concerns Statement**

1 message

 Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 2:21 PM

 To: Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>
 Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 2:21 PM

Kristen,

In our 10/22 meeting you referenced and read part of a redacted statement by Superintendent Geary regarding the staff concerns. I do not have a copy of that statement for my records. Would you please provide me with a copy of the original statement by Superintendent Geary?

Thanks much!

Kind regards, Kate



# Statement this evening

1 message

Kristen Elworthy <elworthyk@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Tue, Sep 24, 2024 at 3:24 PM To: Kate Deprizio <depriziok@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, James Dillon <dillonj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jenny Sheehan <sheehanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Jamie Hayman <haymanj@lynnfield.k12.ma.us> Cc: Thomas Geary <gearyt@lynnfield.k12.ma.us>, Colby Brunt <CBrunt@scmllp.com>

All,

Sharing below a brief statement that I am planning to make this evening. Please note while this is a personal statement (not on committee's behalf) I wanted to make you all aware of it as I'll go first since I've been managing this issue the last few days as vice chair. Afterwards, if anyone has anything additional to add, I'd expect there will be an opportunity to do so before public comment.

#### Statement:

Before we begin, I'd like to take a moment to address our last meeting and what's happened since.

I'd like to start by offering an apology to Jamie's family for being unfairly brought into a public discussion. No students should ever have been discussed or brought into what was essentially a notification to a committee member. Personally I'd also like to apologize to Jamie for being put in the position he was in our last meeting; it was unprofessional and I don't expect it will happen again.

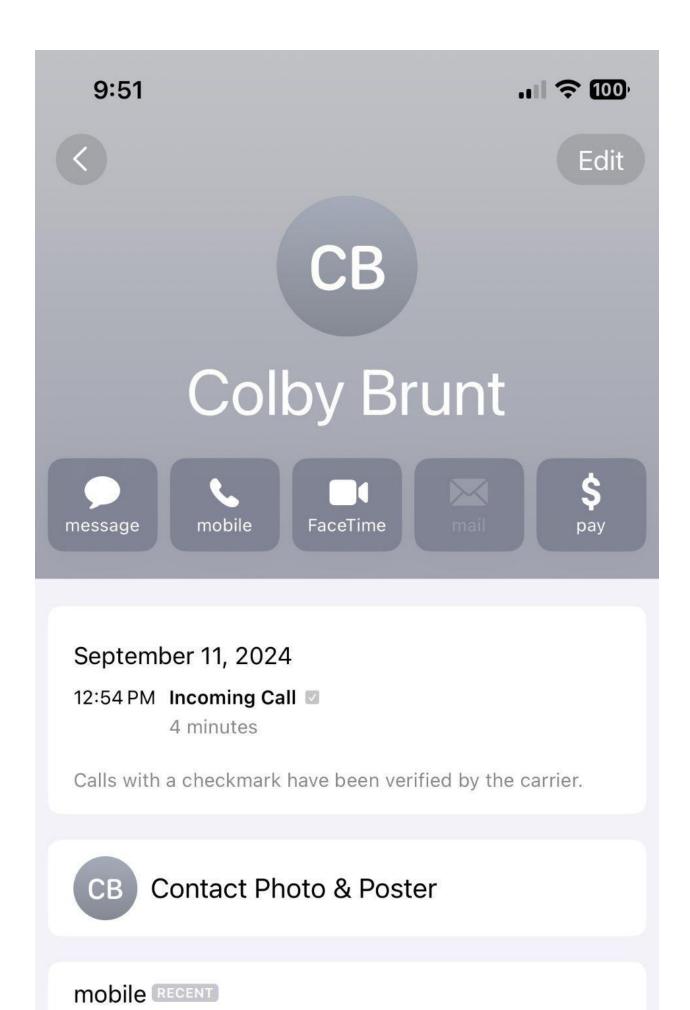
Since that meeting, I have met with Jamie and our attorney to further discuss the matter at hand and share additional information. At this time, there will be no further School Committee action in this matter. We have important work to continue, and our goal is to continue to move that forward.

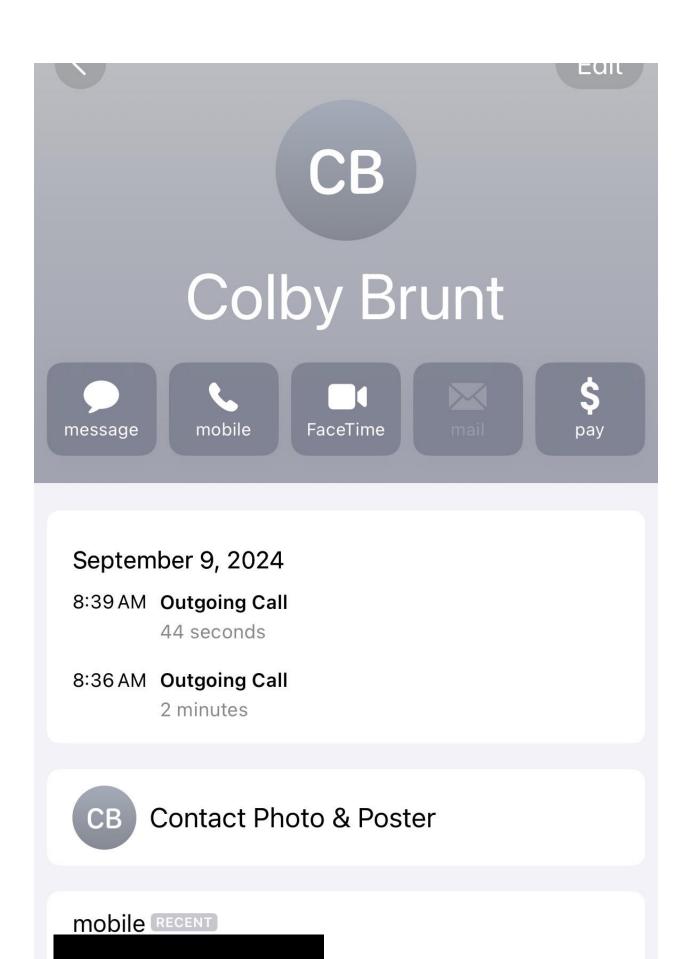
I do want to provide a few facts in reference to this matter. First, I've spoken with our attorney and she has shared that her recommendation may have been misinterpreted around handling this matter. However, she did not recommend or require the step of reading the letter aloud in a public meeting.

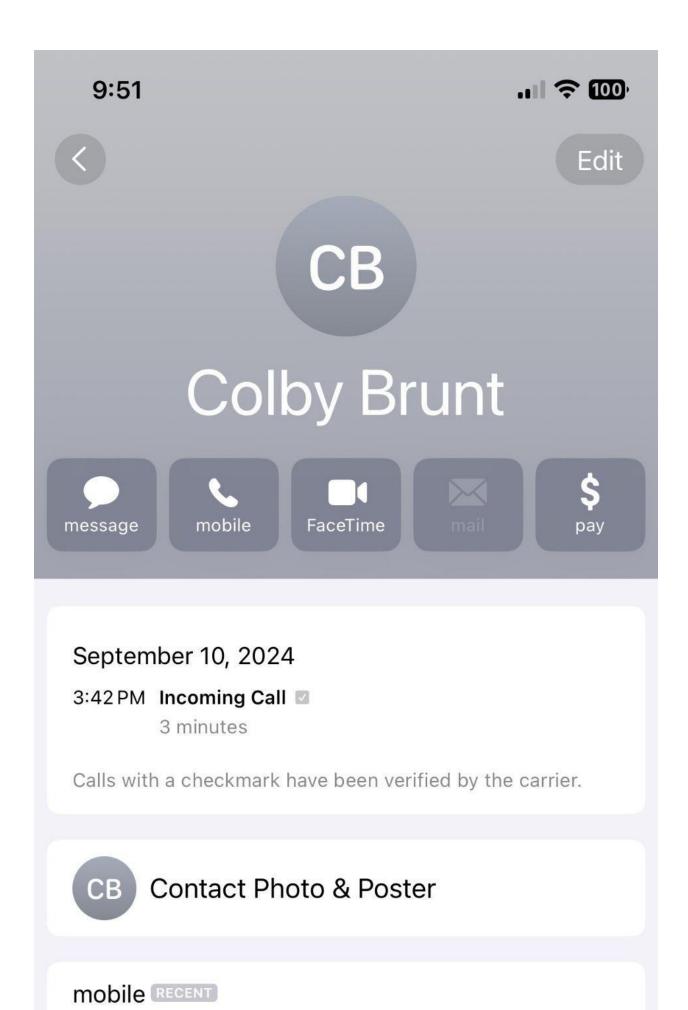
Secondly: she confirmed that Supt Geary was correct in bringing forth any concerns w/any committee member to the chair's attention.

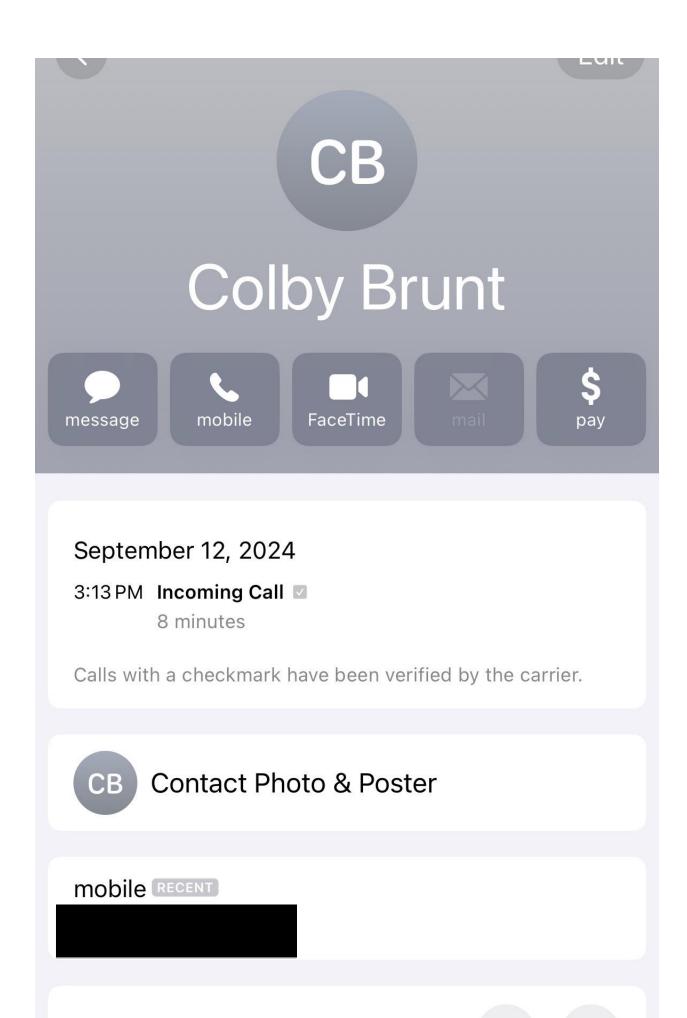
This was an unfortunate moment for a committee that is truly trying to cut the noise and focus on bettering our schools and supporting our students. As a group, we are committed to moving forward with the important work of continuing to contribute to academic excellence and the education of all students in our district.

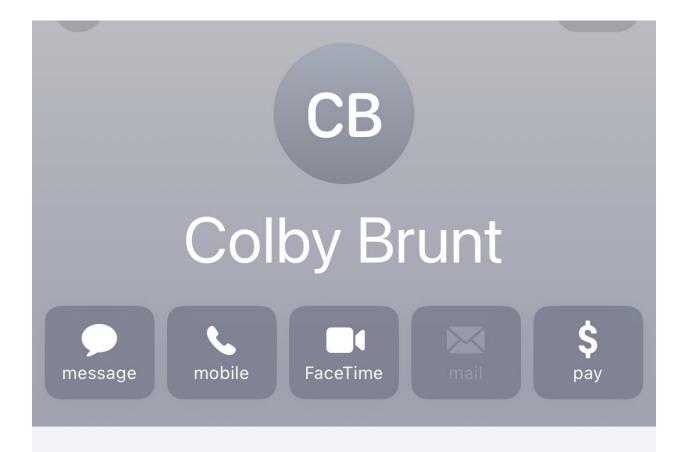
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Colby Brunt	
message mobile FaceTime mail pay	
September 9, 2024	
9:42 AM Incoming Call I	
Calls with a checkmark have been verified by the carrier.	
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# August 21, 2024

# 1:11 PM Incoming Call

10 minutes

# 12:54 PM Outgoing Call

1 minute

Calls with a checkmark have been verified by the carrier.

