

Abre' Conner Staff Attorney ACLU of Northern California Fresno Office P.O. Box 188 Fresno, CA 93707

San Francisco Office 39 Drumm Street San Francisco, CA 94111

Re: Vacaville Unified School District Review of Article in Student Yearbook

Dear Ms. Conner:

This letter is in response to your March 17, 2017 letter to the Vacaville Unified School District ("District") regarding the content of the Buckingham Charter Magnet High School ("Buckingham") 2016-17 yearbook. Specifically, your letter requests that an article prepared by two students on the yearbook staff at Buckingham originally titled "Celebrating Being an American: Clarity on Black Lives Matter" be restored to its original content and placed in the yearbook. You provide a number of legal sources in support of your request. We appreciate you bringing your concerns to our attention. The District is well aware of the provisions of Education Code section 48907 and the free speech rights afforded to our students. We value free inquiry and the exchange of ideas and understand the value that robust debate lends to the education process.

After careful review of the issue, we have decided to allow the original yearbook spread prepared by the two students at Buckingham to be published in the 2016-2017 yearbook without any substantive changes to its content.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jane Shamel

Jane Shamieh Superintendent