



THE LAW FIRM OF
JAMES IRBY, P.C.



October 31, 2011

FREEDOM FROM RELIGION foundation
P.O. Box 750
Madison, Wisconsin 53701

Re: Lauderdale County, Alabama, Board of Education

Dear FREEDOM FROM RELIGION foundation,

Please be advised that I am the attorney who represents the Lauderdale County Board of Education and am in receipt of your correspondence dated both September 15, 2011, and October 17, 2011.

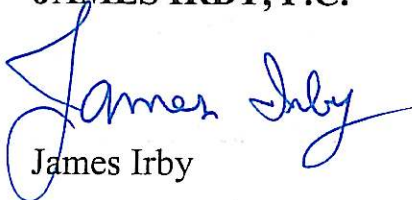
The Superintendent of Education has forwarded the attached memorandum of instruction to the entire faculty of the school system.

The Board of Education does not govern "midget football." They are an entirely separate entity.

Should you have further questions or inquiries, feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

JAMES IRBY, P.C.


James Irby

Enclosure as stated
c: Mr. William Valentine

Lauderdale County Board of Education

Telephone (256) 760-1300 • Fax (256) 766-5815

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BOARD MEMBERS

Ralph Thompson, *Chairman*
Barbara Cornelius, *Vice-Chairman*
Dan Beavers
Chad Holden
Daniel Patterson

William L. Valentine - *Superintendent*
Vicky L. Tubbs - *Secretary*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Principals, Assistant Principals, and Other Employees
FROM: William L. Valentine, Superintendent *W. Valentine*
DATE: October 27, 2011
SUBJECT: Cessation of Prayers at Football Games

This is a directive from the Superintendent to the principals, assistant principals, and other employees of the Lauderdale County Board of Education:

- Effective immediately, football games are not to be opened with a prayer that is in anyway led, directed, organized, or encouraged by Lauderdale County Board of Education employees. **To be clear, no employee may lead, direct, organize, or encourage prayer.** Personnel may neither advance nor inhibit prayer.
- Additionally, no student, parent, volunteer, or anyone else may use the public address system of the stadium or school to lead, direct, organize, or encourage prayer.
- To that end, football games are to be opened with the following announcement by the public address system's designated announcer:
- "Ladies and Gentlemen, please stand
..... and now, our National Anthem."

(The announcer should give an appropriate amount of time for the crowd to prepare for the presentation of the National Anthem.)

Please contact me directly for additional information or clarification.