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December 13, 2018

DEC 17 2018

Ryan D. Jayne, Staff Attorney
Freedom From Religion Foundation
P. O. Box 750
Madison, Wisconsin 53701

Re: South Gibson School Corporation

Dear Mr. Jayne:

Your letter of November 30, 2018 has been given to me for reply.

Please be advised that it is the policy of South Gibson School Corporation to fully adhere to the First Amendment to the Constitution's principle of separation of church and state. It is also our policy in fulfilling our educational mission to instruct students on the law and their individual rights and thus to be an example to those students.

It is our desire and policy to correctly instruct and monitor school personnel including coaches on compliance with the law specifically in the instance addressed in your letter with regard to the Constitutional principle of separation of church and state.

I cannot with any certainty, agree or disagree with the factual statements made in your letter. The photograph as it relates to possible coaches participation in student led prayer is certainly ambiguous. However, for purposes of our response to this situation, we plan to instruct our head coaching staff at a meeting to be scheduled after the first of the year on this issue.

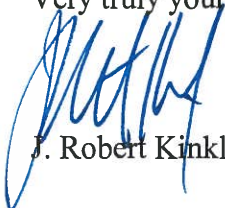
We plan to specifically advise the coaches that students do have a Constitutional right to pray on school property on the condition that the prayer is truly student initiated and that the prayer does not otherwise interfere with the normal operation of school activities. We further plan to instruct the school personnel, including all coaches, that they may not encourage, lead, initiate, mandate, either directly or indirectly, any such student prayer. In addition, we want to

Letter to Ryan D. Jayne, Staff Attorney
December 13, 2018
Page 2

emphasize to our personnel that they may not participate any such student led prayer. In addition, we will advise our personnel that students certainly have a right not to participate in any such prayer.

We do, however, have an obligation as a custodian of the students to fulfill our supervisory obligations to the students. Therefore, we will advise personnel that while they may not participate in any student initiated prayer, they do have a custodial obligation to supervise and monitor this activity, but again, they may not participate.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Robert Kinkle", is written over the typed name.

J. Robert Kinkle

JRK/jjr
cc: Dr. Stacey Humbaugh