

FREEDOM FROM RELIGION *foundation*

P.O. BOX 750 | MADISON, WI 53701 | (608) 256-8900 | FFRF.ORG

November 30, 2017

Tim Jermain
Superintendent
Jefferson C-123 School District
37614 U.S. Hwy 136
Conception Jct., MO 64434

Re: Unconstitutional Religious Assemblies

Dear Superintendent Jermain:

We are writing on behalf of the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) to alert you to serious constitutional concerns regarding religious programming that was hosted by the District. FFRF is a national nonprofit organization with more than 30,000 members across the country. Our purposes are to protect the constitutional principle of separation between state and church, and to educate the public on matters relating to nontheism.

It is our understanding that Jefferson High School hosted an assembly by the Todd Becker Foundation in the past, and may do so again in the future. We are writing to inform the District of its obligation to protect students from proselytizing adults while they are at school, and to warn of the legal ramifications of permitting religious ministries to proselytize to your students. We also want the District to be aware of the divisiveness created in the community when schools invite speakers who are not welcoming of all students.

Please review the enclosed memo, which explains how the Todd Becker Foundation utilizes public schools, like Jefferson High School, to convert children to their brand of evangelical Christianity and why the District cannot allow the Foundation to present in its schools. We request your assurance that the Todd Becker Foundation will not be invited or allowed to present at District schools again in the future. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Patrick Elliott
Senior Counsel
Freedom From Religion Foundation



Christopher Line
Patrick O'Reiley Legal Fellow
Freedom From Religion Foundation