



Harleton
Independent School District

Jay Ratcliff
Superintendent

April 21, 2023

Samantha F. Lawrence
Freedom From Religion Foundation
P.O. Box 750
Madison, WI 53701

Dear Ms. Lawrence:

As you may be aware, HISD permits citizens to post on its Facebook page. The individual who made this post, while also an employee, was acting in her personal capacity in attending the dedication ceremony. She and a small group of other individuals met and buried a bible on the property. This was not a school activity, nor did anyone in the school object to the group's freedom of religion to express them self in this way. Our Facebook page permits free speech, and her profession of faith is no more violative of the First Amendment than an individual who professes no faith or opposes faith. So long as the posts are not violent or offensive, we will not censor individuals. The school itself does not do anything that would violate the First Amendment Establishment Clause.

Sincerely,

Jay Ratcliff

It's a great day to be a Wildcat!

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