



January 10, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL

RE: Letter dated December 6, 2023

Dear Sir or Madam,

I hope this message finds you well. We appreciate your concern and the diligence with which the Freedom From Religion Foundation addresses matters related to the separation of church and state. The Newton County School District takes matters of religious neutrality seriously and endeavors to create an inclusive and respectful environment for all students while ensuring the protection of the children's religious beliefs.

Upon receiving your inquiry regarding a kindergarten teacher using a Christian prayer, we conducted a thorough investigation into the matter. The teacher, as well as building-level administrators, have been counseled on the laws regarding freedom of religion.

We assure you that steps are being taken to prevent incidents described in your letter in the future. Our district remains committed to upholding the constitutional rights of all of our students, fostering an atmosphere of inclusivity, and respecting the diverse beliefs within our community.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyler C. Hansford

Tyler C. Hansford, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Education