



SEP 26 2023

# Symmes Valley Local Schools

Greg Bowman  
Superintendent

Brad Carpenter  
Treasurer

14778 State Route 141  
Willow Wood, Ohio 45696  
(740) 643-2451  
Fax: (740) 643-1219

21 September 2023

Samantha Lawrence  
Freedom From Religion Foundation  
PO Box 750  
Madison, WI 53701

Dear Ms. Lawrence,

In response to your letter dated September 14, 2023 please see the following response.

There was no scrimmage that took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August, however, there was a scrimmage (Jamboree game) that was held on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, there was no scheduled adult-led prayer, but there was an impromptu prayer led by the adult PA game announcer, and he possibly may have asked everyone to stand for the prayer and the National Anthem since one followed the other.

Prior to the next home game, we will direct the PA announcer that he is to refrain from leading prayer henceforth and will also ask for his assistance in relaying that refrain to other adults that may be in the press box – I expect his full cooperation. Our administrative staff (who may be in the press box from time to time before games) will also be reminded that there is to be no scheduled adult-led prayer during school sponsored events.

Respectfully,

Greg Bowman  
Superintendent



## Mission Statement

*The mission of the Symmes Valley Local Schools is to academically prepare all students to become lifelong learners.*