

February 9, 2011

Larry Smith, Chairman  
McNairy County Schools  
170 W Court Ave  
Selmer, TN 38375

Re: Prayers at School Board Meetings

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am writing a follow-up letter on behalf of a concerned McNairy County citizen and the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) regarding the opening of School Board meeting's with prayer. As indicated in my first letter, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals has struck down prayer at School Board meetings. *See Coles v. Cleveland Bd of Educ*, 171 F.3d 369 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir 1999).

To date, we have not received a response from the School Board regarding the steps that have been taken to end this divisive practice. We again ask that the Board refrain from praying at its meetings and that you please inform us in writing of the steps you are taking to ensure the continued freedom of all McNairy County School parents to choose the type of religious or non-religious upbringing for their children.

Sincerely,

Rebecca S. Markert  
Staff Attorney

Enclosure