

Nashua School District News Release: Immediate May 10, 2019

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Nashua Board of Education President Heather Raymond, members of the BOE, and the superintendent are requesting Doris Hohensee to resign her membership immediately as a member of the Nashua Board of Education. Ms. Hohensee engaged in reprehensible behavior as an elected official.

On Friday, May 3, a student created a post on her personal Facebook page about her personal point-of-view on a current, school-related topic. On Sunday, May 5, a local blogger, wrote a public blog on a website: Granitegrok.com citing the student's post in taking a different point-of-view. The blog did not identify the student. Later on Sunday, Nashua Board of Education elected official, Doris Hohensee wrote a public comment in response to the blog, in which **she identified the student by name and called on readers to visit this student's page.** Ms. Hohensee then wrote a second comment agreeing with another user's aforementioned statement that the student deserved "heavy backlash" for her post. By the evening of May 5, multiple members of the public had visited the student's page and posted derogatory comments directed at the Nashua High School North student. Hence, our student, through Ms. Hohensee's actions, was referred to in unspeakable terms.

Moreover, on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Ms. Hohensee posted a quote from Lothrop Stoddard, an avowed anti-Semite who promoted eugenics and whose book was considered training materials for the Nazi regime. Ms. Hohensee referenced that book (Revolt Against Civilization: The Menace of the Under-Man) to justify a larger point about social and emotional learning. This type of reckless and public behavior created a concerning climate for both students and faculty and has no place in a school district.

Nashua Board of Education members operate under the authority of the City Charter of the City of Nashua, New Hampshire and Federal Law. The Nashua City Charter Section 74 States that the BOE "...shall have the power to protect the health of children attending the public schools when exposed to danger from any cause..." The federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) gives parents certain protections with regard to their children's educational records including contact and family information.

Mrs. Hohensee's public statements on the social media, Facebook this past weekend violated the requirements of the City Charter by placing the student in danger. The student and his/her family have been in contact with Nashua Police Department officers as a result of the concerning comments posted on the student's page after being encouraged to do so by Ms. Hohensee. She has violated also the spirit of FERPA by sharing the student's name and contact information publicly without permission from the student's parents.

To the community of Nashua, we publicly rebuke Ms. Hohensee's behavior as it is not acceptable behavior from a Nashua Board of Education member. The City of Nashua residents have put their trust in Board members and this behavior is a gross violation of that trust.

We condemn this behavior in the strongest terms. This is unacceptable and disqualifying. Consequently, President Raymond has requested Ms. Hohensee to resign immediately from the Nashua Board of Education and to issue an apology to the student and their families.

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