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Quincy School Committee
Mayor Thomas Koch
Mr. Anthony Andronico
Mr. Paul Bregoli
Mr. James DeAmicis
Mr. Douglas Gutro
Ms. Kathryn Hubley
Ms. Emily Lebo
Dr. Richard Decristofaro
34 Coddington Street
Quincy, MA 02169

June 19, 2018

Hello Quincy School Committee Members,

Today I am asking for clarification on my ability to communicate with you in written form. I am basing this request on the actions of the School Committee meeting of May 2, 2018 where this language was approved:

"Open Forum: An opportunity for community input regarding the Quincy Public Schools. Community in this context is defined as a resident of the City of Quincy, a parent of a student who attends the Quincy Public Schools, or an employee of the Quincy Public Schools. **Non-community persons not permitted to speak at Open Forum may submit written statements to the School Committee.** After giving his or her name and address, each speaker may make a presentation of no more than four minutes to the School Committee. An individual may not exchange their time or yield to others."

- Is email considered "writing" to meet the requirement of a "written statement"?
- Is a printed document delivered through USPS considered a "written statement"?
- Is a printed document delivered in person considered a "written statement"?
- Are all of communication networks above considered "written statements"?
- Is the mailing address, obtained from the website here
<http://quincypublicschools.com/contact/> the correct address for each school Committee member?
- May an individual statement, to you, collectively or individually, by whatever means, be accompanied by supporting documents for proof of assertions made in the statement?

- Do you plan on including a clarification in the QPS Policy manual for future reference?

This may seem tedious yet while I do still consider myself a community member your recent actions have silenced me in person in front of you. I would like to be certain of and clear on the procedural ground rules should I choose to reach out to you in the future. It would certainly slow down communications should I inadvertently choose the wrong means of communication and admittedly using all means is time consuming. I do not want to either fill your inboxes or take unnecessary time myself in reaching out with information I may encounter or people I may know who are involved in educational issues impacting Quincy Public Schools, the students, the community at large and certainly the important work you are doing.

I will say I am saddened by your choice here as you are formally, publicly and seriously limiting your decisions to input from Quincy residents. The written submissions can easily and readily be ignored and they do not see the light of day throughout the community. This seems a step backwards. The students under your authority certainly can benefit from expertise and opinions from those in the larger community that touches all their lives. Even shaping public discourse through the local broadcasts can be beneficial and instead of reaching out to the world you seem to be hunkering down into a bunker mentality, enforcing a citywide us vs. them, insider/outsider way of thinking. This leads to unneeded hostility and certainly limits open dialog. I believe the students and all of Quincy deserves better than this. You are, I am certain, aware than you can revisit your decision. I hope you choose to do so.

Because of this situation I am reaching out to you by all of the means above. I personally am happy to be reached by any means and promise to respond as promptly as possible. My contact information:

SANoble@outlook.com

Phone land line: 781-803.3753

Mobile: 440-829-0705

Sherrie A. Noble
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Weymouth, MA 02190

Thank you for your time. I look forward to your response.

In peace with hope,

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Sherrie A. Noble