



Deer Park
SCHOOL DISTRICT

28 May 2024

Deer Park School District
Attn: President, School Board
N. 428 Main
Deer Park, Washington 99006

Sequence: 2024-010, Bullying Incidents

Dear School Board President and Directors,

At our 13 May DPSD School Board Meeting, a young man, who attends DP Middle School, came forward with his grandfather to discuss his concerns over bullying that he and his classmates were experiencing. Based on my comments that even my own daughter was pushed down and bullied at "Cheer Camp" last fall, his mother, Jenniel Voiglaender, reach out to me. I spoke with Jenniel, and she and other parents (Andrew/Ally Russel & Ray/Richelle Lusk) are not satisfied with the handling of the past and current bullying incidents. I understand some incidents are related and some are not.

Since becoming a School Board Director, I have been approached by parents at functions/events. For example, at the "Donuts with Grown-ups" at DP Elementary on 17 May a parent confided to me they had experienced "racial bullying" to one of his children.

As the young man brought forth "bullying issues" to the DP School Board, we are now obligated to follow-up and determine next steps. Due to the sensitivity of the topics, we need to set up a separate meeting to discuss these and other bullying cases as a board. In advance of this meeting, the School Board Directors will need copies of all related reports on the bullying incidents of all three families and the other children and staff involved.

With regards,
Gerald F. Ashby
Deer Park School Board Director, #4