

Zack Dozier David Dozier Jack Jenkins Sam Hart, Jr. David Dorer Sean Bewick Michael Hill James Kurhajian

## March 19, 2015

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To Whom it May Concern:

Re: Monroe County School District Superintendent Anthony Pack's Personal Statement Regarding Ongoing BOE and Monroe County Sheriff's Department Investigations

Attached below you will find the personal statement of Mr. Anthony Pack, the Superintendent of Monroe County School District, regarding the ongoing investigations by the Board of Education and the Sheriff's Department in Monroe County.

This statement is being provided in order to provide clarity as to certain innuendos, and to hopefully quell the continued invasion into his private life.

Mr. Pack is adamant that his behavior is not violative of his duties to the Board of Education, the students and taxpayers of Monroe County, and that it is a wholly private matter for which he has been subject to embarrassing and invasive intrusion.

As can be expected, Mr. Pack requests that all communications with media personnel on this matter go directly through my office so that he can handle privately the issues that he and his family are wrestling with.

Sincerely yours,

David Dorer

cc: Anthony Pack

## **Personal Statement of Anthony Pack**

Given all that various groups of people (races, gender, sexual orientation, etc.) have been subjected to in past and even present years, one would think in today's society those who bully individuals or various subgroups within our culture would show kindness and understanding to those who are different from us individually.

In the last four months my wife and I have been separated and quietly seeking an uncontested divorce. Regardless of my sexual orientation, the personal life of each member of my family has become a discussion point for many in the form of gossip. I have been forced by a journalist that prefers to report on gossip as opposed to news to reveal some facts about myself that I otherwise would hold privately between me, my wife, and my children.

Deep personal contemplation, prayer, and a desire to see my spouse as happy as she can be in her personal life, led me to realize that I am gay. I have tried to privately cope with accepting my sexual orientation as not definitive of my identity, but rather a small part of who I am as a father, a person, and a public figure.

My identity, as I define it, is that of a dedicated father and passionate school administrator. As a dad, I love my two boys and desire nothing but what is best for them even though we have encountered this most difficult time in our lives. As a Superintendent, I have had the joy of overseeing Monroe County Schools for the past seven (7) years. Historical times have occurred during my tenure. Our District's Vision, "Committed to Excellence" is something I hold true to my heart and the administration of an effective educational system that focuses on the student, as opposed to arbitrary metrics, is the reason why our graduation rates are better, our costs are down while our fund balance is at its highest, and our students are better prepared for the modern challenges of today's workforce.

I have continued and enhanced the level of transparency of the administration of Monroe County Schools by implementing "Monroe County Schools By the Numbers" so taxpayers know where their dollars are spent and how it is helping the students of Monroe County. It is with that same dedication to transparency that I reveal these private facts about myself, because otherwise the Monroe County Reporter's innuendos and egregious misrepresentations of myself and the facts at hand would continue to fester and create questions for our citizens and students.

The School Board received information from an anonymous person last week regarding my participation in an online dating site geared towards male relationships. In order to ensure that I am not wasting the taxpayer's resources or violating policies that we hold administrators, teachers, and students to alike, my publicly-issued work computer, phone, and tablet are currently being reviewed by the Monroe County Sheriff's Department. I have fully complied with the Board's requests that these pieces of technology be thoroughly analyzed, and look forward to a report from the Sheriff's Department that my private life is indeed my private life, and not a public spectacle nor an abuse of public equipment or services.

Just as no man should be judged by the color of his skin, no man should be judged by his

sexual orientation, and I hope that this statement serves well to dispel the misrepresentations of my personal character which are flying about the local media. While I am currently on medical leave, dealing with another personal issue that needn't be reported on or discussed further, I look forward to returning to work when I am well, and serving Monroe County with the same passion and vigor that I have for the past seven years.

- Anthony Pack