

October 7, 2021

The Griffins' Nest Student Editorial Team, 2021/22
Eric Hamber Secondary School

RE: *The Griffin's Nest* Team Meeting, October 5, 2021

Dear Spencer, Jessica, Erika and Stephen,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me this past Tuesday. I am glad we had the opportunity to sit down together and share what you have been doing on behalf of *The Griffins' Nest*. Your passion for journalism, free press, and student voice is inspiring and I am looking forward to seeing the work you do in the coming months (and years).

My purpose in reaching out to you was to both clarify responsibilities related to *The Griffins' Nest*, and to respond to your recent communications to the Board of Education and Secretary Treasurer seeking support for *Freedom of Information* requests.

I hope that you were able to hear that *The Griffins' Nest* is a Hamber Secondary student club and as such, falls within the purview of both the club sponsor and the school administration. As a student club, inevitably it is the adult staff sponsors that bear responsibility for what is produced and or articulated by the student contributors. You clearly articulated that you want to work with Mr. Scaglione and the administrative team and value their support. I also appreciated that you were cognizant of District *Administrative Procedures* and acknowledged the need to uphold the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion amongst your student audience.

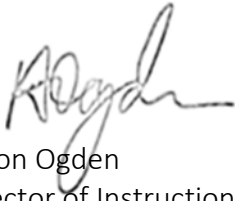
We also had the opportunity to discuss your information requests. I understood that you have availed yourself to, and prefer, the *Freedom of Information* (FOI) processes to access information. I did offer to support you in accessing District information outside of the FOI process as I see this as an opportunity for teaching and learning, but it was expressed by the team that you felt this would bias information. From our conversation I trust that it is understood that all FOI requests are dealt with formally in alignment with legislative requirements for timing, fees, and release of information. Any FOI request you submit will be addressed as such. I continue to offer you District support.

Moving forward, please work to ensure that communications, social media posts, website content, publications, and requests for information are vetted by Mr. Scaglione or a member of the

administrative team prior to being sent. As we discussed in the meeting, this is not about censorship but about ensuring that the people who are ultimately responsible for what goes on with the student club, are aware of what is going on and can provide guidance and support to ensure that your work on the school newspaper continues to be a rich learning opportunity.

Please reach out if you have questions or would appreciate direction on where to find information.

Kindly,



Alison Ogden
Director of Instruction

cc Marea Jensen, Eric Hamber Secondary Principal
Dale Ambrose, Eric Hamber Secondary Vice Principal
Pino Scaglione, *The Griffins' Nest* Club Sponsor