

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF Florida

COUNTY OF Collier

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority duly authorized in the State of Florida, County of Collier to take acknowledgments and administer oaths, personally appeared Mary Ellen Cash who, after being duly sworn on oath, according to law, deposes and says as follows:

1. My name is Mary Ellen Cash..
2. I make all statements contained in this Affidavit based upon my personal knowledge.
3. I am of sound mind and body, over the age of 18, and understand the obligation of an oath.
4. I am a Certified Teacher/Counselor in the State of Florida. As such I have personally witnessed situations under which parents and grandparents were not allowed to act on behalf of their children and grandchildren because Collier County School Board policy prevents them from speaking and addressing Administrators in schools and the School Board members they have elected to represent them. Collier County School Board members have delegated all appeals and requests for changes in Curriculum to Collier County Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent repeatedly denies students exceptions to established policies. This has resulted in undue hardship to families.
5. Examples of these situations include but are not limited to
 - a. a request to remove books in the Elementary libraries about Cuba, in which the Communist ideals of Fidel Castro are glorified and students are pictured as being happy

and well adjusted individuals. No mention is made of having been removed from their homes and being forced to work in farms picking fruits and vegetables as part of their daily educational process. The book does not present a balanced view of how the United States had placed an embargo on the Communist nation because of its inhumane treatment of citizens that dare voice their opinions against the government of Fidel Castro. The student in question was the child of a Cuban born American citizen, who left Cuba on a raft in order to escape Cuban tyranny. This was a very personal matter to him.

b. I have witnessed students being taught evolution as a fact of creation rather than a theory. Parental objections are ignored.

c. I have witnessed children being taught that Global Warming is a reality. Now that it is colder and the country is experiencing repeated Cold Waves, the new term is Climate Change. When parents question these theories, they are ignored.

d. There is a liberal agenda being taught in our schools. I have repeatedly attended School Board meetings where parents express their frustration over simple math concepts being taught as a process rather than an outcome. Students and parents are so frustrated with having to perform for process that our students are failing because of the anxiety they experience in this curriculum. The Superintendent of Collier Schools will not change the books being used to teach math, this despite repeated evidence that the Singapore Math curriculum is a Best Practices Curriculum and results in higher achievement scores.

6. School Boards in the State of Florida must be held responsible for all aspects of student performance within their counties. They must not be allowed to delegate their responsibilities to the Superintendent. This is illogical and makes the School Board an unnecessary part of the very

system they are sworn to protect. Parents do not have a voice. Superintendents are not being held accountable.

7. Collier County's academic performance continues to decline. The Superintendent is focused on data mining. Dual enrollment is discouraged and parents are encouraged to enroll students in Advanced Placement programs that often result in students' not attaining college credit. Curriculums should be student centered, to facilitate greatest achievement and highest levels of graduation.

8. State mandated Individual Education Plans are not discussed with students and parents. The result is that students often graduate without a life plan. Counselors are profiling students and this results in fewer students taking the advanced mathematics courses that they will need in STEM careers.

9. State published materials such as NEXT trend Magazine are never provided to parents and students. Principals and Counselors do not know what these precious materials are. The students are denied an outstanding resource.

FURTHER THIS AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.



February 1, 2017
Print Name: Mary Ellen Cash

SWORN TO under oath and subscribed before me this first day of February, 2017, by

2nd

Mary Ellen Cash

_____, who () is personally known to me,

or () has produced driver's license as identification.

(SEAL)



NOTARY PUBLIC

Name: Sindy Arca.

(Type or Print)

My Commission Expires: Dec. 16th 20

