



**From:** Davis Philip philip.davis04@gmail.com 

**Subject:** A Pending Decision by the SLVUSD

**Date:** April 30, 2023 at 5:51 PM

**To:** Mark Becker mbecker@slvUSD.org, snewsomkerr@slvUSD.org, gpollak@slvUSD.org, gaildraezel@gmail.com, Jacqui.mj.rice@gmail.com, Chris Schiermeyer cschiermeyer@slvUSD.org

**Cc:** Jeff Calden jcalden@slvUSD.org, rschlosser@slvUSD.org

**Bcc:**

[Redacted BCC list]

Mr. Becker, Ms. Newsom Kerr, Ms. Pollak, Ms. Levine, Ms. Rice, Mr. Schiermeyer,

I regret the necessity of sending an email like this once again. I'm writing based on my understanding of your intent to again authorize display of the "Rainbow Flag" over SLV public school campuses from 8-12 May 23. For two years running I've expressed my opposition to your action based on the inappropriate nature of such a display. In the attached documents I describe five different reasons for why your action is inappropriate, the most important of which is this: *Display of this flag over a public school represents a profound violation of the religious conscience for some of your students, teachers, and administrative personnel.*

In my email to you dated 19 Apr 22, and in my statement to you at your meeting on 3 May 22 (or thereabouts), I asked you to please engage with me over these concerns in a substantive manner. My request has been met with silence on your part. How does your silence evidence respect - whether for me as a person, a father, or an SLV voter?

The attached documents (in roughly chronological order) articulate my concern, and display the nature of our communication extending back to 2021. Again, I ask you to please take up the issues I raise and actually address them. The Board's three paragraph email of 18 Apr 22 was not substantive engagement. At the very least, you might consider how to make accommodation for students whose religious conscience does not allow them to attend campus under the Rainbow Flag.

As a matter of conscience, my children will not be in class on the days you choose to display this flag. I can only hope that other parents will adopt a similar response.

Respectfully,

P.J. Davis

Addressing the  
SLVUS...ion.pdf