

Community Communications

1 message

Laurel Fraher laurelfraher@gmail.com To: jamie krista@msd.k12.wi.us Mon, Apr 26, 2021 at 2:57 PM

Hello, I would like to submit this comment for tonight's school board meeting:

Dear members of the school board, I would like to address you today to express my shock and confusion at learning that Jason Collins will not be returning to his 8th grade Language Arts teaching position next year. I understand that Mr. Collins opted to teach virtually this year because of his own health concerns regarding the Covid-19 pandemic. I do not understand why Mr. Collins was made to interview for his original position, given that his move to teach virtually was one of many temporary changes that have taken place in our district this year. Further, I am at a complete loss for how his replacement was found to be more qualified, given that Mr. Collins has been a passionate and committed educator in the Language Arts classroom for over a decade.

I have reached out to Mr. Boettcher at the Middle School and been told that he cannot discuss personnel decisions, and so I am turning to the school board. I will ask you to look at this from my perspective, as the parent of a 7th grader. I know how passionate Mr. Collins is about Language Arts, how loved he is by his students, and what a positive impact he has had during his time at Menomonie Middle School. It is hard to understand why this administration would not strive to retain a dedicated teacher such as Mr. Collins. It is even harder to understand how Mr. Collins was found to be less qualified than his replacement.

Menomonie is a community that cares deeply for its teachers. I hope you can understand why this decision leaves me and many other parents, students and community members feeling devastated, and wanting to understand how we have just lost a highly qualified 8th grade teacher who has given so much to his position, his school and his students.

Thank you, Laurel Fraher