

Walker, Norman replied Fri, 25 Jun 2021 at 3:30 PM)

To: "PDC Support" <pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov>

Thanks for getting back to me quickly. Upon rereading my statement I noticed one small typo. Late in the document I started a sentence with "If fact....". It should read "In fact....". Are you able to make that change without my resubmitting the entire document?

Thanks for your help,
Norm Walker

Walker, Norman replied Thu, 24 Jun 2021 at 11:23 AM)

To: "PDC Support" <pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov>

Re: Case number 93799, complaint filed by Kenneth Gartrell

There is one accuracy in Mr. Gartrell's complaint: I did inadvertently use my school district email to contact Michelle Perry regarding her endorsement of Mr. Gartrell's candidacy for YSD Board of Directors.

I initially contacted her, not because of who the candidate was, but because of my concern that as Vice President of WSSDA, the professional organization to which I belong, Ms. Perry had used her official position to favor one candidate over another. I first wanted to ascertain if that was even accurate information. Listing no specifics, I simply stated that I had a concern and asked her to call me. That was the only email using my school district account.

I later did some research on Mr. Gartrell and located a Yakima Herald-Republic article that revealed some concerning observed public behavior on his part. For my second, and last email to Ms. Perry, I used my personal email account, not the school district's. I had forwarded the cited article, and again expressed my concern about the public behavior of this candidate. She did not respond. It appears that she simply forwarded these two emails directly to Mr. Gartrell. I have had no other attempted communications with Ms. Perry.

I never discussed this issue via email, phone or any other means with Graciella Villanueva, as Mr. Gartrell alleges. In fact, I have not had any communication with Ms. Villanueva regarding this issue to this date. I never "slandered" or "libelled" Mr. Gartrell as I only cited the publicly reported newspaper article. I have made zero public comments regarding his candidacy via email or any other form of media. Nor have I offered any public endorsements or comments regarding any of the current candidates.

I hardly see how this one event constitutes "bullying" and there has been no campaign of any sort.

To sum up: There was ONE email using school district resources, asking Michelle Perry, the VP of WSSDA, to please "Give me a call." That was my offense.

Norm Walker

YSD Board of Directors

Dated: June 24, 2021