

Dear PUC, please find below our response to the allegations received:

1. Promotion of Religion:

“RMSA allegedly promoted religion through passages of the Quran, written in Arabic, being posted on a white board in a classroom.”

Response: RMSA has an Arabic language Program, the program description was shared in our earlier response in January. We have not seen a picture of what was written on the white board, if you would like to share it with us to have one of our Arabic speaking staff look at it and tell what it is. However, even without looking at the picture of what was written, Quran is just words in Arabic, meaning anything written in Arabic could be thought to be Quran. In our Arabic Program we do not teach Quran, we teach Arabic and a communication language, we teach grammar, and we teach vocab. RMSA did not and will not promote religion.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

“RMSA allegedly instructed a teacher to have students not recite the Pledge of Allegiance.”

Response: The story happened around 2 years ago, RMSA had a grade two teacher that recited the pledge of allegiance with his students. One parent came to the school and complained that she did not want her daughter to participate in the recitation. At that time RMSA did not have a Pledge of Allegiance Policy, so we told the teacher that this specific student will not join in the recitation because her parents do not want that. To our knowledge and understanding that is where the story ended, and the teacher was understanding, and the parents were satisfied. We assume that the teacher shared the story with a colleague, and it was that colleague that went forward and did the complaint recently. To avoid such a situation happening again we now have a Pledge of Allegiance Policy clear for everyone to read and follow, and that was shared with PUC earlier.

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