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Contact: Ethan Hollenberger (608) 266-7513

Senator Stroebel: Middleton Should Allow Lunch Time Bible Study

Moms should not be hassled for their religious beliefs

Madison, WI –Several Middleton moms have begun offering free lunch at a city owned park to Middleton High School students. In addition to lunch, the moms and students participate in a weekly discussion on the Bible. State Senator Duey Stroebel released the following statement on the ongoing controversy in Middleton:

The First Amendment is clear – Americans have the right to the free exercise of religion. Speech may not be limited due to a viewpoint disagreement. It is a shame Middleton High School administrators see fit to flex their bureaucratic arm in an attempt to silence well-intentioned parents providing a safe environment during the lunch hour to discuss their faith – especially when Middleton has an "opencampus" lunch policy.

The students are voluntarily listening during their lunch period to the parents. No school administrator should ever prevent the free exercise of faith and speech of these parents or the nearly 400 students attending. It has become clear the school administrators are concerned about the content of the presentation.

I wonder if State Superintendent Tony Evers would advocate for all Wisconsin high schools to limit the access of taxpayer owned property due to a viewpoint divergence. <u>Evers has already made clear he will discriminate based on faith when it comes to bussing.</u>

I will always defend the First Amendment rights for all Wisconsinites.

Senator Stroebel will continue to follow developments in this case.

Senator Duey Stroebel represents the 20th Senate District which includes parts of Ozaukee, Washington, Fond du Lac, Calumet and Sheboygan Counties.

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