

**COLLINS & BLAHA, P.C.**

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

**SUITE 170**

**31440 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY  
FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN 48334**

**TELEPHONE 248/406-1140**

**FACSIMILE 248/406-8416**

**JULIA M. MELKIC  
JACQUELINE R. ZABLOCKI  
PATRICIA M. POUPARD  
ETHAN P. SCHULTZ  
DANIEL R. BAKER  
LINDSAY E. POETZ  
DARIA S. SOLOMON  
OF COUNSEL  
ROBERT J. GAVIN**

**GARY J. COLLINS  
WILLIAM J. BLAHA  
LORIE E. STEINHAUER†  
AMBERLY ACUFF BRENNAN  
JOHN C. KAVA  
JEREMY D. CHISHOLM  
SCOTT D. CORBA**

**†ALSO ADMITTED IN  
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

January 14, 2021  
**via Electronic Mail**

Andrew Weaver  
Address Removed for Privacy

**Re: Cease and Desist False Allegations and Insinuations**

Dear Mr. Weaver:

Our firm represents Rochester Community Schools (the “District”) and its Board of Education (the “Board”). We have been made aware that you have publicly and falsely suggested that a Board member may be engaged in an ongoing financial conflict of interest, and that you appear to have done so as part of an attempt to intimidate Board members to adopt a policy position you prefer. Additionally, you have electronically connected Board members’ employers with your personal blog where you express your displeasure with Board members.

On January 12, 2021, you posted a portion of the LinkedIn profile of Board Member Scott Muska to a Facebook group, with the following comments:

I have shared that I believe that the delays to returning to in person instruction have been tied to the virtual campus.

Scott is one of the four BOE members that asked no questions about returning back to in person from Aug 10th to Nov 30th. He also does not speak much at all other than an occasional pat on the back or condescending comment.

So, it was interesting to find out that in addition to being the owner of Oakland Properties he works for Skillo Inc. Skillo Inc. is a modern online learning platform. It would be nice to have better understanding of what his role has been in the development of the virtual campus. This could be a conflict on interest if he is using his position on the BOE to expand if employer. There also could be no connection, but the community deserves to know what the relationship is. [SIC]

You later continued the same conversation by stating that you “hope there is nothing to be found here. But we should know for sure.” You also forwarded similar information to Board Members, again suggesting that Mr. Muska may have a financial conflict of interest through his employment.

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Your insinuation of a potential conflict of interest is unfounded. The District complies with all relevant laws, including those contained in the Revised School Code (the "Code"). The Code strictly regulates Board member conflicts of interest at MCL 380.1203. Likewise, Board Bylaw 0139.3 prohibits conflicts of interest. Mr. Muska does not have a conflict of interest per the Code or per the Board's bylaws, and specifically does not have a conflict of interest arising from his employment.

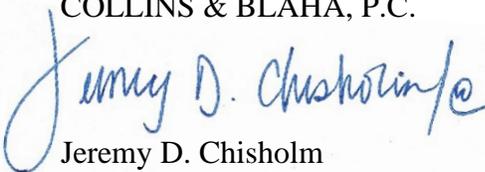
Your public false suggestion of a possible conflict of interest was made in the context of your ongoing displeasure with policy decisions made by the Board. In that context, raising the issue of a potential conflict of interest, which is unfounded, and publicly describing a Board member's employment status as the basis of that potential conflict of interest, appears to be an attempt to exert pressure on that member and on the Board to alter its policy decisions in a direction you prefer. This appearance of trying to apply pressure is bolstered by your comment encouraging others to inquire about a possible conflict of interest: "I know if it is just me asking it will be discredited. But if many parents ask it is harder to do that."

Furthermore, you have electronically linked the employers of multiple Board members to your public blog. It appears that the purpose of that electronic linkage is to directly inform the employers of Board members of your displeasure with their acts as Board members. This intentional attempt to interfere in the business relationships of Board members is potentially injurious to those members and to the Board. Baselessly raising the false suggestion of a conflict of interest that does not exist is injurious to both the Board and the member you have falsely insinuated may be conflicted. You are advised to cease and desist from making false statements and insinuations about the District and the Board, and to cease and desist all attempts to interfere in the business relationships of Board members. The District is prepared to preserve its legal rights using the tools available to it to the fullest extent of the law.

Should you have any further questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

COLLINS & BLAHA, P.C.



Jeremy D. Chisholm

JDC/ses/iaa

Copy: Ms. Debi Fragomeni, Deputy Superintendent (*via electronic mail*)