

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Formal complaint****tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com Tamara Woodmancy**

Sunday, June 1, 2025 at 8:37:36 PM Central Daylight Time

To: craig.smock@mcusd709.org Craig Smock, troy.teater@mcusd709.org Troy Teater, joseph.sander@musd709.org sander Joseph

Consider this a formal complaint against Dr. Smock, Dr. Teater and Dr. Sander.

On May 19th, 2025, I requested all communications containing my name and email addresses, which was denied. I need these communications in order to prepare for my hearing on June 10th, 2025. Please cooperate.

Please respond promptly so that I am prepared for the school board hearing. It won't be easy to read 4,600 emails before June 10th. I am hoping to not postpone the hearing, so that I can continue advocating for the LGBTQIA+ community and all marginalized people.

Sincerely,

Tamara Woodmancy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Tamara Woodmancy <tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com>**Date:** May 27, 2025 at 9:04:49 PM CDT**To:** Craig Smock <craig.smock@mcusd709.org>, Troy Teater <troy.teater@mcusd709.org>, sander Joseph <joseph.sander@musd709.org>**Subject:** Alarming results

Dr. Smock, Dr. Teater and Dr. Sander-

I was denied the FOIA sent to Dr. Teater because it was considered "unduly burdensome", with there being over 4,600.

I need all of these communications in order to defend myself at the hearing on June 10th. I ask for reconsideration, so that I can properly defend myself. Please promptly provide these communications to me.

Sincerely,

Tamara Woodmancy  
Sent from my iPhone**craig.smock@mcusd709.org Smock, Craig**  
To: joseph.sander@mcusd709.org Joseph Sander

Monday, June 2, 2025 at 7:46:41 AM Central Daylight Time

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Tamara Woodmancy <tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com>**Date:** Sun, Jun 1, 2025 at 8:37 PM**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Formal complaint**To:** Craig Smock <craig.smock@mcusd709.org>, Troy Teater <troy.teater@mcusd709.org>, sander Joseph <joseph.sander@musd709.org>

Consider this a formal complaint against Dr. Smock, Dr. Teater and Dr. Sander.

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Dr. Smock, Dr. Teater and Dr. Sander-

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Sincerely,

Tamara Woodmancy

Sent from my iPhone

--

Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709



**[EXTERNAL EMAIL] FOIA Request****bryan.l.groth@gmail.com Bryan Groth**

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 1:21:38 PM Central Daylight Time

To: troy.teater@mcusd709.org Teater, Troy, craig.smock@mcusd709.org Craig Smock

Dear FOIA Officer,

Under the IL Freedom of Information Act, I hereby make this non-commercial request for to all district communications (emails, memos, text messages, etc.) sent to or received by any past or present Morton CUSD #709 personnel or board members for the time period of November 1st, 2021 to April 30th, 2022 containing one or more of the following phrases or email addresses:

"Tammy Woodmancy"  
 "Tamara Woodmancy"  
 "tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com"  
 tamarawoodmancy@gmail.com  
 tammywoodmancy@hotmail.com"

Please deliver results in electronic form to my email.

Thank you,  
 Bryan Groth

**troy.teater@mcusd709.org Teater, Troy**

Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 5:04:10 PM Central Daylight Time

To: bryan.l.groth@gmail.com Bryan Groth

Bcc: Craig.Smock@mcusd709.org Craig Smock, joseph.sander@mcusd709.org Joe Sander, kate.wyman@mcusd709.org Wyman, Kate, boardofeducation@mcusd709.org Board of Education

The response to your request can be found on our website: <https://www.morton709.org/freedom-of-information>

**Troy A. Teater Ed. D.**  
**Assistant Superintendent**

On Tue, Jun 3, 2025 at 1:21 PM Bryan Groth &lt;bryan.l.groth@gmail.com&gt; wrote:

Dear FOIA Officer,

Under the IL Freedom of Information Act, I hereby make this non-commercial request for to all district communications (emails, memos, text messages, etc.) sent to or received by any past or present Morton CUSD #709 personnel or board members for the time period of November 1st, 2021 to April 30th, 2022 containing one or more of the following phrases or email addresses:

"Tammy Woodmancy"  
 "Tamara Woodmancy"  
 "tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com"  
 tamarawoodmancy@gmail.com  
 tammywoodmancy@hotmail.com"

Please deliver results in electronic form to my email.

Thank you,  
 Bryan Groth



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**No subject**

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**craig.smock@mcusd709.org Smock, Craig**

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 3:22:06 PM Central Daylight Time

There are no documents that we are required to release that are pertinent to your requests.

With respect to the board's awareness of your ban, I believe that you made that public on social media.

5/28/25

Dr. Smock-

1. By what means was the board made aware of my ban?
2. Please provide the communication that made the board aware of my ban?
3. Who wrote or co-wrote Mr. Braker's speech, delivered on Dec 12th, before public participation?
4. Please provide any communications used in preparation for that December 12th speech that are not privileged.

Sincerely,

Tammy Woodmancy

--

Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709





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## Formal Complaint: 2 June 2025

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**kirk.edwards@mcusd709.org** Edwards, Kirk  
To: tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com

Monday, June 2, 2025 at 2:06:37 PM Central Daylight Time

Hello, Ms. Woodmancy.

My name is Kirk Edwards, and I serve as a complaint manager for the district. I am writing to confirm that I am in receipt of your formal complaint against Dr. Smock, Dr. Teater, and Dr. Sander which you sent via email on Sunday, June 1, 2025.

I have begun to review the circumstances of your complaint and will be in touch with my findings and next steps in the near future. I am available via email or via phone (309) 284-6010 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Kirk Edwards

--

Disclaimer: The information transmitted by this email is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed. This email may contain proprietary, business-confidential and/or privileged material. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, be aware that any use, review, retransmission, distribution, reproduction or any action taken in reliance upon this message is strictly prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from all computers.

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**tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com** Tamara Woodmancy

Monday, June 2, 2025 at 3:36:52 PM Central Daylight  
Time

To: kirk.edwards@mcusd709.org Kirk Edwards

Mr. Edwards,  
I received your email, and I am curious as to when I can expect to hear back from you with findings?  
Sincerely,  
Tamara Woodmancy  
Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 2, 2025, at 2:07 PM, Edwards, Kirk <kirk.edwards@mcusd709.org> wrote:

Hello, Ms. Woodmancy.

My name is Kirk Edwards, and I serve as a complaint manager for the district. I am writing to confirm that I am in receipt of your formal complaint against Dr. Smock, Dr. Teater, and Dr. Sander which you sent via email on Sunday, June 1, 2025.

I have begun to review the circumstances of your complaint and will be in touch with my findings and next steps in the near future. I am available via email or via phone (309) 284-6010 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Kirk Edwards

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**kirk.edwards@mcusd709.org Edwards, Kirk**  
To: tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com Tamara Woodmancy

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 3:51:48 PM Central Daylight Time

Hi Ms. Woodmancy. Thank you for the follow up email. I have some information to share with you regarding your formal complaint.

After reviewing your email, I have determined that your formal complaint is in response to your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), rather than under the Uniform Grievance Procedure. As such, any further actions should be directed to the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the address below:

Public Access Counselor  
Office of the Attorney General  
500 South 2nd Street  
Springfield, IL 62706  
Phone: 1-877-299-3642  
Fax: 1-217-782-1396  
E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

I will retain a copy of your email and my response as a record of your formal complaint request.

If I have misunderstood your concern, please let me know. My office number is 309-284-6010.

Sincerely,  
Kirk Edwards

On Mon, Jun 2, 2025 at 3:37 PM Tamara Woodmancy <tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com> wrote:

Mr. Edwards,

I received your email, and I am curious as to when I can expect to hear back from you with findings?

Sincerely,

Tamara Woodmancy

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 2, 2025, at 2:07 PM, Edwards, Kirk <kirk.edwards@mcusd709.org> wrote:

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Kirk Edwards

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## Hearing Information

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**craig.smock@mcusd709.org Smock, Craig**

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 4:58:00 PM Central Daylight Time

To: tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com

Bcc: boardofeducation@mcusd709.org Board of Education, jay.greening@mhtlaw.com Jay Greening,

joseph.sander@mcusd709.org Joseph Sander, troy.teater@mcusd709.org Troy Teater

Mrs. Woodmancy,

Attached is the information that pertains to your request.

Before next week, I will contact you regarding the time of the hearing, which will take place on the evening of Tuesday, June 10th.

Sincerely,

Craig Smock

Mrs. Woodmancy,

Regarding your questions and the hearing process, I have conferred with our attorney who will act as chair for your hearing before the Board. The Board of Education will make the final determination on your ban in open session following the hearing. Part of that determination will address events and activities such as the Pumpkin Festival, elections, or other non-school sponsored events. You are welcome to ask the board for specific requests or considerations before the hearing concludes.

You are allowed only one person to accompany you for the duration of the hearing. No others, including media, are allowed in the closed session hearing. One exception to this would be any witnesses that you want to call to testify. Any such witness will be called into the room one at a time when it is time for them to testify. When their testimony is over, they will be excused. Mr. Groth is not allowed to be an in-person witness for you, since, as you noted, he has been banned from school property for meetings such as this one. So, that request is denied. However, if you would like Mr. Groth to share information with the Board, he can provide you a sworn and notarized affidavit which you can submit to the Board for consideration. Your request to have anyone, including your advocate, attend remotely is denied.

To answer other questions of yours, all board members are aware that you have been banned from property pending your hearing. The Morton Chamber was responsible for the Meet the Candidates event, and we did not organize the police presence for that event. With respect to your question about someone sharing information about you, we do not know what you are referring to. But, public information can be shared with anyone apart from the formal FOIA process. We have asked administrators and board members to provide texts, and we will share any that are discovered that meet your request, other than those which are considered unduly burdensome and emails and texts to and from our attorney, which are privileged. Those will not be included. We are gathering other information that you requested that we share with you as well. But, we are asserting a five-day extension due to the nature of the request. According to 5 ILCS 140/ 3(e), a 5-day extension is allowed when "*requested records require examination and evaluation by personnel having the necessary competence and discretion to determine if they are exempt from disclosure under Section 7 of this Act or should be revealed only with appropriate deletions.*"

Regarding your request for video and audio recordings, the main recording is the one of the board meeting of December 12, 2023. Other board meeting videos may also be used. All of them can be accessed at our website under "past meetings": <https://www.morton709.org/board-of-education/meeting-information> The monitors in the boardroom may be used during the hearing.

The administration has not yet finalized its witness list. We will let you know who the witnesses will be at the hearing.

I want to make you aware that the hearing officer will keep the topics and scope of the hearing to only matters regarding your conduct and the specific reasons why you were banned from school property. The hearing officer will, at the beginning of the meeting, set the time limit for each side to present their case. In a past hearing, both sides were given 20 minutes each to present their case. While you are free to make whatever points you want within your allotted time, I do want to point out that you may want to reserve some time to address your conduct that is at issue in the case.

Regarding the starting time of the hearing on June 10, 2025, I will send you an email for the specific time for you to arrive based upon the length of the agenda of the open session portion of the meeting. It will likely be around 8:00 p.m. When you arrive, please remain in the lobby until someone comes to get you for the hearing. There will be more communication with you prior to the hearing.

Sincerely,

Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709

--  
Dr. Smock-

1. By what means was the board made aware of my ban?
2. Please provide the communication that made the board aware of my ban?
3. Who wrote or co-wrote Mr. Braker's speech, delivered on Dec 12th, before public participation?
4. Please provide any communications used in preparation for that December 12th speech that are not privileged.

Sincerely,  
Tammy Woodmancy

Mrs. Woodmancy,

Attached is the document provided in response to request #1 and #2 above.  
There are no documents that we are required to release that are pertinent to requests #3 and #4 above.

Sincerely,

Craig Smock

Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709



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**Attachments:**

**Woodmancy Hearing Information.pdf** 421k

**Email forwarded to the Board 12-19-23.pdf** 180k

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Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 8:09:26 PM Central Daylight Time

**tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com Tamara Woodmancy**

To: craig.smock@mcusd709.org Smock, Craig

Dr. Smock-  
In the last 10 years, what other adults have been banned from school board meetings, and what were the circumstances?  
Please share unprivileged details with me.  
Sincerely,  
Tamara Woodmancy

On Jun 3, 2025, at 4:58 PM, Smock, Craig <craig.smock@mcusd709.org> wrote:

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Sincerely,

Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709

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Dr. Smock-

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Tammy Woodmancy

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Sincerely,

Craig Smock

Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709



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<Woodmancy Hearing Information.pdf><Email forwarded to the Board 12-19-23.pdf>



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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Request for removal of ban**

---

**tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com Tamara Woodmancy**

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 10:38:58 PM Central Daylight Time

To: joseph.sander@musd709.org sander Joseph, craig.smock@mcusd709.org Craig Smock

Dear Dr. Smock and Dr. Sander,

I am writing to respectfully request the complete removal of the ban that has been in place for approximately eighteen months. I believe that lifting this restriction would allow this matter to be resolved without the need for a hearing and would serve the best interests of Morton 709 and the broader community.

The conduct that led to the imposition of the ban occurred *outside* the building where the meeting took place. A member of the community was lingering near the exit in a way that made several people in our group feel unsafe and uncomfortable. This same individual followed us into the parking lot and continued to engage with us in a negative and antagonistic manner. My reaction to this behavior, while not ideal, as I have acknowledged in previous communications—was not violent and, given the circumstances, was not unprecedented. At no point did I engage in any physical confrontation or behavior that endangered others.

Despite the context, this incident has resulted in a ban that has indefinitely halted my ability to participate in advocacy efforts aimed at ensuring that LGBTQIA+ and other marginalized students within Morton 709 receive an education free from bullying, harassment, and hate-based incidents. As someone committed to fostering an inclusive and respectful school environment, I believe I should be afforded the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of our students and community without undue restriction.

Such an extensive and open-ended ban raises serious legal and constitutional concerns. Under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, I have a protected right to speak on matters of public concern and to engage in advocacy, particularly in public forums like school board meetings. The Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120) ensures the right of community members to observe and participate in public meetings and deliberations.

Restrictions on public access must be narrowly tailored and supported by evidence of a legitimate safety risk. Prolonged exclusion from public property or participation in civic processes, especially without a clear and current justification, risks being overbroad and potentially unconstitutional. See *United States v. Grace*, 461 U.S. 171 (1983). Additionally, state laws such as the Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/5-102) require that individuals be treated fairly and without discrimination in public accommodations, including public schools.

Given that I have already served a lengthy period of exclusion and that there is no evidence of continuing disruptive or dangerous behavior, I believe the continued enforcement of this ban is punitive and not proportionate to the incident in question.

I respectfully request that the ban be lifted in full. I am eager to return to contributing positively to the community and advocating for the protection and dignity of all students within Morton 709.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Tamara Woodmancy

---

**craig.smock@mcusd709.org Smock, Craig**

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 7:51:05AM Central Daylight Time

To: joseph.sander@mcusd709.org Joseph Sander, troy.teater@mcusd709.org Troy Teater, david.cross@mcusd709.org David Cross

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tamara Woodmancy** <tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com>

Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2025 at 10:39 PM

Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Request for removal of ban

To: sander Joseph <joseph.sander@mcusd709.org>, Craig Smock <craig.smock@mcusd709.org>

Dear Dr. Smock and Dr. Sander,

I am writing to respectfully request the complete removal of the ban that has been in place for approximately eighteen months. I believe that lifting this restriction would allow this matter to be resolved without the need for a hearing and would serve the best interests of Morton 709 and the broader community.

The conduct that led to the imposition of the ban occurred *outside* the building where the meeting took place. A member of the community was lingering near the exit in a way that made several people in our group feel unsafe and uncomfortable. This same individual followed us into the parking lot and continued to engage with us in a negative and antagonistic manner. My reaction to this behavior, while not ideal, as I have acknowledged in previous communications—was not violent and, given the circumstances, was not unprecedented. At no point did I engage in any physical confrontation or behavior that endangered others.

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Given that I have already served a lengthy period of exclusion and that there is no evidence of continuing disruptive or dangerous behavior, I believe the continued enforcement of this ban is punitive and not proportionate to the incident in question.

I respectfully request that the ban be lifted in full. I am eager to return to contributing positively to the community and advocating for the protection and dignity of all students within Morton 709.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Tamara Woodmancy

Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709



---

**craig.smock@mcusd709.org Smock, Craig**  
To: joseph.sander@mcusd709.org Joseph Sander

Friday, June 6, 2025 at 8:20:50AM Central Daylight Time

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tamara Woodmancy** <tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com>  
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2025 at 10:39 PM  
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Request for removal of ban  
To: sander Joseph <joseph.sander@mcusd709.org>, Craig Smock <craig.smock@mcusd709.org>

Dear Dr. Smock and Dr. Sander,

I am writing to respectfully request the complete removal of the ban that has been in place for approximately eighteen months. I believe that lifting this restriction would allow this matter to be resolved without the need for a hearing and would serve the best interests of Morton 709 and the broader community.

The conduct that led to the imposition of the ban occurred *outside* the building where the meeting took place. A member of the community was lingering near the exit in a way that made several people in our group feel unsafe and uncomfortable. This same individual followed us into the parking lot and continued to engage with us in a negative and antagonistic manner. My reaction to this behavior, while not ideal, as I have acknowledged in previous communications—was not violent and, given the circumstances, was not unprecedented. At no point did I engage in any physical confrontation or behavior that endangered others.

Despite the context, this incident has resulted in a ban that has indefinitely halted my ability to participate in advocacy efforts aimed at ensuring that LGBTQIA+ and other marginalized students within Morton 709 receive an education free from bullying, harassment, and hate-based incidents. As someone committed to fostering an inclusive and respectful school environment, I believe I should be afforded the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of our students and community without undue restriction.

Such an extensive and open-ended ban raises serious legal and constitutional concerns. Under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, I have a protected right to speak on matters of public concern and to engage in advocacy, particularly in public forums like school board meetings. The Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120) ensures the right of community members to observe and participate in public meetings and deliberations.

Restrictions on public access must be narrowly tailored and supported by evidence of a legitimate safety risk. Prolonged exclusion from public property or participation in civic processes, especially without a clear and current justification, risks being overbroad and potentially unconstitutional. See *United States v. Grace*, 461 U.S. 171 (1983). Additionally, state laws such as the Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/5-102) require that individuals be treated fairly and without discrimination in public accommodations, including public schools.

Given that I have already served a lengthy period of exclusion and that there is no evidence of continuing disruptive or dangerous behavior, I believe the continued enforcement of this ban is punitive and not proportionate to the incident in question.

I respectfully request that the ban be lifted in full. I am eager to return to contributing positively to the community and advocating for the protection and dignity of all students within Morton 709.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Tamara Woodmancy

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Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709



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**craig.smock@mcusd709.org Smock, Craig**

Friday, June 6, 2025 at 5:17:00 PM Central Daylight Time

To: tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com Tamara Woodmancy

Bcc: boardofeducation@mcusd709.org Board of Education, jay.greening@mhtlaw.com Jay Greening,  
joseph.sander@mcusd709.org Joseph Sander, troy.teater@mcusd709.org Troy Teater

Mrs. Woodmancy,

We will not be lifting the ban nor cancelling your hearing for the following reasons.

1) Your version of the facts in the altercation with Mr. Fay clearly do not align with the video evidence.

2) The ban is due to your conduct that occurred during a session of the board, in the boardroom, when you disrespectfully disrupted the meeting after a stern warning about board meeting conduct went out to "everyone" as "everyone's final warning." Neither you nor Mr. Fay was banned due solely to whatever occurred in the lobby or parking lot. Both of you, and all others, were very seriously warned by the board president about inappropriate, aggressive, disruptive, and disrespectful conduct that would no longer be tolerated. Then, in that moment, you chose to immediately violate that warning and disrupt the meeting.

- 3) There is evidence that you publicly provided that indicates that you were on school district property, violating the ban. Violation of the ban is obviously a good justification for extending the ban.
- 4) Since you have been banned, some people feel that you have continued to publicly disparage and defame school personnel with false information. That is contrary to "positive contributions to the community" that you refer to in your request.
- 5) You have a history of cancelling and postponing hearings as shown in the evidence that I provided you. This has been a waste of taxpayers' money through the waste of employee time and attorney's fees. The evidence that I provided you shows that, from the onset, you rejected my offer to forego a hearing. And, it shows that I treated you with patience, kindness, and respect. The very lengthy delay in your board hearing is clearly your doing, not mine. You are the one responsible for the current length of your ban.

Following the board hearing, and depending upon the board's decision, you are free to seek other legal remedies. In that event, the district will fervently defend itself and include, as evidence, all of the instances in which you continue to defame and disparage school personnel, in addition to citing the facts listed above. Be aware that you have put yourself at risk of lawsuits.

Sincerely,

Craig Smock

On Tue, Jun 3, 2025 at 10:39 PM Tamara Woodmancy <tamarawoodmancy@icloud.com> wrote:

Dear Dr. Smock and Dr. Sander,

I am writing to respectfully request the complete removal of the ban that has been in place for approximately eighteen months. I believe that lifting this restriction would allow this matter to be resolved without the need for a hearing and would serve the best interests of Morton 709 and the broader community.

The conduct that led to the imposition of the ban occurred *outside* the building where the meeting took place. A member of the community was lingering near the exit in a way that made several people in our group feel unsafe and uncomfortable. This same individual followed us into the parking lot and continued to engage with us in a negative and antagonistic manner. My reaction to this behavior, while not ideal, as I have acknowledged in previous communications—was not violent and, given the circumstances, was not unprecedented. At no point did I engage in any physical confrontation or behavior that endangered others.

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Sincerely,

Tamara Woodmancy

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Dr. Craig Smock  
Superintendent  
Morton C.U.S.D. 709

