## Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

September 26, 2025

The Honorable Linda McMahon Secretary of Education U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Secretary McMahon:

I write to bring attention to the egregious encroachment on parental rights at Linn-Mar High School – where my 14-year-old son attends school. This week, Linn-Mar High School's morning announcements included segments highlighting "Bisexual Plus Awareness Week." These segments included a September 25 broadcast highlighting "non-monosexual identities," stating that "a non-monosexual identity refers to sexual orientations that are not exclusively homosexual or heterosexual," and "non-monosexual identities emphasize that attraction can be complex and not limited to traditional binaries." Linn-Mar's broadcast on Tuesday, September 23, encouraged students to "use terms like bisexual plus to be inclusive of all non-monosexual identities." This week's messages to help stop biphobia also included encouraging students to wear bisexual pride pins to show allyship, learn about bisexuality and its history, and to validate the feelings of bisexual individuals.

These segments were broadcast to students without parental knowledge or consent. As a parent and a legislator, I am appalled that a school would assume the role of teaching and promoting sexual identity to our children. Our schools should be educating students, not indoctrinating them.

This is not the first time that Linn-Mar Community School District has deliberately excluded parents from conversations that rightfully belong between a parent and child. Families – not school administrators – should decide how and when to address these issues. These conversations should be between parents and their children – not force-fed to students as part of daily morning announcements in our public-school systems.

I appreciate the Trump Administration's commitment to restoring parents' voices in their children's education. This indoctrination – without even giving parents an opportunity to opt out – is exactly the kind of abuse we must end. Exposing children to ideology that may conflict with a family's values or faith, or that parents are not ready to address with their children, is wholly unacceptable.

Parents should be informed, empowered, and involved in all aspects of their children's education, not blindsided after their children have been exposed to inappropriate content. Let me be clear: there is no circumstance where it is acceptable for administrators, teachers, or any school employee to discuss sexuality with a student without explicit parental consent. I urge the Department of Education to launch a full investigation into this conduct at Linn-Mar High School and ensure that parents are making decisions about their children's education and how to address matters of sexual identity. It is imperative there is accountability and transparency for Linn-Mar parents and an assurance that this will not happen again.

Sincerely,

Ashley Hinsen
Member of Congress

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