

**Members of the \_\_\_\_\_ Board,**

Thank you for letting me speak. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I'm a parent and member of Parents' Rights in Education.

Recently, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Mahmoud v. Taylor* that schools cannot force children to participate in lessons that conflict with their family's beliefs. In this case, a Maryland district refused parents' requests to opt out of K–5 lessons on gender and sexuality, and the Court said that violated parents' First Amendment rights.

Here's what this means for our district:

- Parents must receive **advance notice** before sensitive lessons on topics like gender identity or sexuality.
- Parents have the **right to opt out** without their child being punished or stigmatized.
- Kids who opt out must receive **meaningful alternative activities** so they don't fall behind.
- Teachers need **clear guidance** to handle opt-outs respectfully and professionally.

This decision doesn't ban these topics or limit teachers' freedom — it simply restores the balance by respecting parents' role in guiding their children's values.

I urge you to update our district policies quickly so we follow the law and keep parents and schools working together.

Thank you.