

From: Joshua Block [mailto:jblock@aclu.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 9:48 AM
To: Robert A. Lusk
Cc: Jay Kaplan
Subject: Filtering at Wayne-Westfield Community Schools

Dear Mr. Lusk:

I am writing to confirm whether Wayne-Westfield Community Schools has agreed to disable its filter for "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" websites, as we requested in our April 11, 2011 letter. In your responding letter dated April 12, 2011 you indicated that "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" websites can be accessed by students who are properly logged into the school's computer system. I then spoke with you by telephone and explained that our understanding is that the school district requires students to use their limited "quota" time to access "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" websites, even though comparable websites for other research topics and extra-curricular clubs may be freely accessed without a quota restriction. Imposing a quota on "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" websites places an unjustified and unequal burden on LGBT viewpoints. In addition, every time the computer displays a message identifying a website as "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest," the school district sends an isolating and stigmatizing message to its students that LGBT-related websites are somehow taboo or inappropriate.

Wayne-Westfield Community Schools should disable the "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" so students are able to access LGBT websites as easily as they are able to access other comparable resources. We would be happy to discuss this matter with you further and address any concerns the school district may have.

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