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## Damian will be speaking tonight

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**Shawnda Wright** <shawnda4occa@msn.com>  
To: Kamela Davis <davisk2@canby.k12.or.us>

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 10:05 AM

Hi my name is Damian Santiago, I am one of 7 kids that our civil rights were violated, that wasn't able to walk at graduation night. I was at the basketball game where a student who had contracted COVID-19 attended. I was considered to be in close proximity of him, even though there were students there who were the same distance from him as me that still got to walk. I feel like I was treated extremely unfairly in this situation. There were many other solutions that could have been put into place for all 7 of us to walk and have our last high school experience. The fact that I didn't get to walk at my graduation, didn't get to experience what my other classmates did--it didn't hit me till I got turned away at check in.

I had been looking forward to this moment all week, honestly for all my high school years. It is a rite of passage for seniors, something I had been excited to participate in. To say my dreams had been crushed when I was turned away at check in is an understatement.

I appreciate the support of Mr. Winegar in trying his best to still give us a chance to walk. I would also like to thank Ms. Netter in comforting me during a time of distress. The general consensus of the many parents I had talked to after I had left the ceremony that night, was that this could've been handled differently and in a more fair manner considering this was our only high school graduation. I am convinced that protocols were inconsistently enforced regarding these events.

Lastly, I would like to thank Ms. Carlson, Ms. Depner, Mr. Schlatter, Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Stolsig for staying for "the third ceremony," and again to Mr. Winegar for staying as well as announcing our names as we walked across stage.

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## Public Comments

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Rylan Wymer <[wymers@bcconline.com](mailto:wymers@bcconline.com)>  
To: [kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us](mailto:kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us)

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 11:55 AM

My name is Donna Wymer and Rylan Wymer is my son one of the seven young men affected by the last minute graduation change on June 11. I received a voice message at 3:30 PM from the Canby District nurse and when I listened to it at 3:40 she at that moment was calling my husband so I told him to answer the call. She proceeded to tell us our son can't go to his graduation and neither could we at this point we were shocked, surprised, saddened, and disappointed for our son and then mad at how late we were notified! At this point I couldn't even get a hold of the Canby High School principal he wasn't picking up his phone. I also was directed by the district nurse to email the Clackamas County liaison for Covid and that email bounced back and she said she had no phone number so that was frustrating and that grew for me to sadness. My son has done everything right with all these Covid restrictions that he's had to endure this last year and a half. He has had both his Covid shots at the time of this incident. My son like all the students that went to school and played sports had to wear a mask the whole time. They have done so much right this year. I don't know when the young man tested positive for Covid what day was his test did this young man expose other students at the indoor senior hand printing event or did he test positive on Friday June 11 graduation day so many unknowns? Needless to say I was a very upset weepy mom by the time I was told to come to the high school at 8:20 PM by another parent whose son was in that group of 7 young men so I brought his cap and gown for an unofficial 3rd Commencement. I want to thank those few board members, teachers, and parents that actually made this happen. It meant so much to my son and I know all the other young men and parents to at least have a graduation and wear the Canby cap and gown that they have worked so hard to achieve! This was by far not handled right but I'm also glad that those seven students didn't get their day ripped away from them. At this point I've been a bit upset on should I say anything because my son later told me he thinks he had the best commencement! I sure know it will be one he'll never forget or will the other young men and parents of these students. As Rylan's mom I want to thank again those who stepped up and made this happen and did the right thing it meant more then I can tell you for my son and all the young men and their parents that were affected on June 11, 2021!

Thanks for listening to my perspective,

Donna Wymer

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## Public comment to:

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JASON DAVISON <tinker707@gmail.com>

To: "kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us" <kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us>

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 11:25 AM

To begin with, I would like to say that administration from: superintendent, principal on down within certain staff of canby highschool conducted a knee jerk wrongful investigation of covid protocol. I feel my son Josh Haynes along with the other young men where wrongfully targeted during Thursday June 10th at the high school basketball game. A young man whom they were seen with at above location had been tested for covid and on this day knowledge has it according to his peers he was negative as to his contact with THE SEVEN! The admins investigation was based on this as to why they couldn't walk at graduation. This doesn't follow covid protocol at all, simply THE SEVEN where not direct contact of a positive person. Those whom enforced this are in the wrong! Parents were contacted only hours before graduation the next day June 11th.

To add: I am one of the parents whom went to the school with my wife and son Josh Haynes to take a stand with Shawnda Wright and Jeff.

People there may have noticed Shawnda going back and forth from the stadium to the inner court yard outside the cafeteria in support of us and Kyle. Because she was also waiting for her son Kade to cross stage. This stance was taken very appropriately as to not disturb all the other parents and their kids graduation. We knew what we were doing. Our kids civil liberties were violated period.

As well there was a faculty member a Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, in the courtyard harassing us parents; what business did he have being involved he's not administration? This caused Kyle to jump to his mother Shawnda Wright's defense. And ask him to back off ! Which I was direct witness about 3 feet away. I spoke to him and said this is not your business and we are handling matters with officer Manns and Ben. I don't see any reason this man had to incite frustration! Wow.

With that we the parents whom took a are thankful to our officer on hand and upheld those civil liberties for both sides. And had he noticed any threat in the way we handled it, he would have had us removed.

We all need to take a stand in this community! Enough is enough! On this false information about covid and what seem illegal actions by those administrators etc. Which the peoples taxes provide jobs for in the school systems. We must dig deeper folks. We have to this poisoning of our students and school staff, and hold them accountable to teach only the subject they were hired to.

Thank you Jason!

I'm Jeff Sandner the father of Kade & Kyle Sandner who are twin brothers, both seniors who were affected by the banning of Kyle from attending the regular graduation ceremony because he was supposedly in close proximity of an infected Covid student. How Kyle and the other 6 students got singled out when the infected student was involved in graduation practice and the handprint activities the day before is beyond me.

What should have been the best day of their young lives, the pinnacle of 13 years of education was turned into the worst day of their lives.

Why was there no alternative or solution provided by the school district at time of the phone call from the nurse? There should have been. (Lack of Leadership) You call a student/parent and tell them they can't participate in Graduation 2-3 hours before their suppose to graduate, say sorry and that's it? You've just destroyed a student on what should have been one of the most memorable days of their young lives, and you don't care? (Where's the Leadership?)

Why was there no alternatives or solutions from the School District? This was the worst day of these kids lives... why no solution for them? (Lack of leadership) The school district should have been bending over backwards to make something happen for these students who were just crushed, the only thing we got was "oh we know how you feel we're sorry".

Why did I have to provide a solution at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour? (Lack of Leadership)

Why wasn't the leader of the school, (The Principal) out in front of these students and parents offering explanations, condolences & answering questions? (That's what a true leader should have done) Instead we had teachers and secretaries out being a buffer so we couldn't talk to decision makers.

I do applaud Ben Winegar for his efforts at getting my requested solution approved and for Principal Dinse approving it. I do believe that Ben was one of the few that really cared about the situation the students were put in and was doing what he could to make something work.

Thanks again to Ben Winegar for helping to put together the small ceremony where the affected students could walk across the stage and receive their diploma, and for announcing. I also thank Jim Schlatter for officiating and handing out the diplomas, and the two ladies who were on the stage with him, believe they may have been school board members. Also thank you to the photographer who I asked to wait around so she could take photographs of the affected students on stage. Also thanks to the facilities staff who may have been delayed for a few minutes from completing the teardown.

Where was the Principal at for the small ceremony for the affected students? Why during the worst time in these kids lives could he not stay around for a few more minutes to hand them their diplomas as he did for every other student? (Why is he disrespecting these students?) He should have been bending over backwards knowing the pain these kids were going through, which should have been one the biggest and happiest days of their lives. (Failure of Leadership)

Why did the Principal not walk over to the affected students and offer his condolences and acknowledge these kids who were suffering? He had his chance to make a difference and show some respect for these kids and he just walks away. (Lack of Leadership)

Lastly, why did the Principal feel the need to disrespect my twin boys mother when he should have been showing care and concern? Why did he tell my boys mother that "I don't have to talk to you", when yes you are a public servant and that is exactly your job? Why when she questioned why he was not staying around to hand out diplomas to the affected students did he say "AM I MAKING YOU MAD, AM I MAKING YOU MAD.... GOOD!". Instead of doing his job and showing concern and respect for a parent who was crushed and hurting for her kids he berated and disrespected her. This my friends is not the actions of a Leader, or of a Principal who should be in charge of a school.

I think you can see a clear pattern of a Lack of Leadership that was on full display on that particular Friday by the school district and it's Leader, the Principal. I would hope that these actions, or lack thereof are an anomaly that doesn't occur regularly at school, but that seems unlikely. Based on what I have seen on that Graduation Day, Friday June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the Principal should resign or the School Board should look to have him removed.

# Joan Haynes - Statement.

Just want to get right to the point! Our 7 boys were targeted with the schools poor investigation.

They did not attempt to learn the facts! They failed gathering the correct information and they failed our boys.

The covid person in question was negative on Thursday which is why he attended all the senior functions that day and the basketball game. He was exposed by his girlfriend, which leaves our boys the 3rd party as to covid protocol. Yes this 3rd graduation ceremony of 2021 will be memorable because of Stefanie Dawn Depner Carlson

such love and compassion, Ben Winger for not leaving our boys side that night and made something happen for these boys and that was no easy task! Coach Schatter who handed our boys their diploma. And all the classmates that stayed to cheer them on. We thank you:

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## Speaking at tonight's board meeting

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**Shawnda Wright** <shawnda4OCCA@msn.com>  
To: Kamela Davis <davisk2@canby.k12.or.us>

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 8:16 AM

For Josh Haynes who text this to me to submit for him.

Hi my name is Joshua Haynes and I am one of the 7 who's civil rights have been violated by the canby high school administrators. I was told that I was not going to allowed to walk at graduation. I was also under the impression that if I showed up the police department would escort me off the property. I was also told I would not be allowed to attend the gap party which I believe is not a school function. I showed up to graduate as normal when we were stopped by staff. I sat with my best friends with tears in our eyes and our hopes of being with our other classmates gone. Do you what it's like for a son to watch his mother sobbing as a young man it was extremely hard. I am a good student athlete I worked hard I supported my school and this is how they said thank you, a slap in my face. I would like to say thank you to Dawn and Stefani for being the only board members who stayed for us while the other slimes walked out on us. Thank you Mr winegar for announcing our names and making sure that we had the best experience we could. Coach stolsig and coach Rhodes for staying with us and mostly our hogs coach, coach schlatter you mean a lot to me.

Joshua Haynes

emailed only by

*Shawnda Wright*

## HAMILL

I want to introduce Aaron Sleeper. I've worked with him at Carus since he was hired in 2004. He resigned in February, and fulfilled his contract through June. There are many things that Aaron loves about this district: The Staff, the students, the parents and building principals.

A brief history of Mr. Sleeper. He received his Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education & Psychology from Washington University in St. Louis. He received his Masters Degree in Educational Leadership & Policy from Portland State University. He taught at Carus (4th & 5th graders) for 10 years, Intervention Specialist for 5 years, and this year he was the 3rd-5th grade COLA teacher & then 6th grade CDL teacher for 3 different schools. He's been a successful leader both at the building level and amongst schools. He has no political affiliation. He's one of the few non-union employees. What he is, is 100% dedicated to these students, families, & staff.

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## SLEEPER

Thank you for providing an opportunity to listen to the community.

I care so deeply about this community of learners & educators so I'm coming to you with 5 problems and solutions. School Board members, I embarrassingly know little of you nor your responsibilities. I worked closely with Shelley Vissers at Carus. If the rest of you are anything like her, then we're all on the same team, wanting the best educational experiences for our students. My speech is aimed at anyone attending this meeting.

**1. 360 Degree Evaluations.** One primary driver of my departure is the continually ineffective leadership, poor communication, and lack of collaboration via multiple employees at the Central Office. Since my resignation, 2 have resigned. Principals evaluate teachers. Create an evaluation system where we evaluate our principals and both staff and admin staff evaluate any central office staff that they work with. Data in hand, you can make data-informed decisions.

**2. Exit Interviews.** Over 16 yrs, I have watched this district bleed instructional leaders at the building and district levels. Even if for burn out or financial reasons, that's still data you can use to shape district improvement. For the first 2, retaining effective staff and maintaining effective leaders lead to more effective educational experiences which leads to greater educational growth and achievement for our students.

**3. Instructional Leadership.** A primary role of building principals should be instructional leadership- improving the craft of teachers. How many employees is your supervisor solely in charge of? Or how many employees are you directly responsible for? Sam Thompson has 46 staff and 406 kids (which means 304 families). Each elementary school needs another admin position- call it Dean of Students, Vice Principal, whatever. Allow principals the ability to prioritize frequent classroom visits & observations. Improved teachers improve students.

**4. Latinx representation.** ~18% of our community identifies as Hispanic/Latinx. 0% of school board members, over my entire tenure I believe, have identified as Hispanic/Latinx. Representation matters. Their voices ARE out there and they NEED to be amplified. More equitable representation leads to educational decisions that more equitably support our marginalized learners.

**5. Value staff.** Working in education doesn't need to be undervalued in a school district. Another reason I'm departing is a lack of feeling valued... authentically. Once each month we only celebrate 1 district employee. At

the end of the school year we used to celebrate retirees and employees who reach commitment milestones in employment. 2 years ago, my 15 year pin was in my summer mail. This year, an employee's pin was in their school-mailbox. No acknowledgement. Unacceptable. AND *beyond* any ceremony we can show value in a variety of ways. We know the importance of consistently & authentically valuing employees.

There: 5 problems and solutions. Even in my departure I love the Canby community and I want it to shine above all other districts. I live in Portland but Canby has my heart. Canby is the only place I want to teach. Maybe someday I'll return as an employee, even start a charter school. You never know. I appreciate your listening. I hope someone out there has the drive to make these ideas a reality. For our children. Thank you.



Kamela Davis <[davisk2@canby.k12.or.us](mailto:davisk2@canby.k12.or.us)>

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## School Board comments, I will read this. Thank you

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**Jim Millar** <[advocarefitness1@gmail.com](mailto:advocarefitness1@gmail.com)>  
To: [kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us](mailto:kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us)

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 12:01 PM

Hello. I'm a parent of a graduating Senior, as well as a district employee. I'm so proud of my Son and all of the graduates of the Class of 2021, for all they, as well as all of the students have endured this school year.

As a parent, when you choose to live in a community and raise your children, you "do life" with your community. You build friendships over the years and it's a team effort, if you will, from school, to sports and clubs and everything in between.

So as a mom of a Senior and learning the late afternoon of graduation that seven of the Seniors in our graduating class, were now banned from their graduation and all night grad party, it broke my heart for all of those boys and their families.

There were no alternative solutions offered, no rapid testing solutions were accepted, just a big NO. This again was very heartbreaking. My son was not one of those seven boys, but many of the boys are our close family friends. I could imagine the heartbreak of those boys and their families.

To have extra police called, in case the boys or their families showed up, was very disheartening. They did not commit any crimes. They are student athletes, boys who did their best in school and were so looking forward to their graduation, then to be told only a few hours before, that they could not. So while watching my son walk and receive his diploma, I was fighting back tears for those boys and their families.

I wish there had been some pre planning to take into consideration that something like this might have occurred. Again, I realize what a crazy year it has been, but again, those boys did nothing wrong.

I'm thankful for all of the work that went into graduation and I'm thankful that some considerations were taken and they did get an after ceremony walk. Thank you to those who helped with that.

Thank you for your time.

Kris Millar

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## Kyles email

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**Shawnda Wright** <shawnda4OCCA@msn.com>  
To: Kamela Davis <davisk2@canby.k12.or.us>

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 10:08 AM

My name is Kyle Sandner, I am one of the 7 seniors that canby high school didn't let walk and of who's civil rights were violated June 11th. I was made aware of the fact that I wouldn't be allowed to walk with my friends when I showed up at the high school that night. Dressed in cap and gown I was unable to proceed with my twin brother, the same twin brother I live with and sleep in the same room as. I was humiliated in front of my whole class. I was pulled aside and I talked with Mr. Winegar who did show me deep remorse for the situation I was in. I was very upset in the heat of the moment and I wasn't the nicest to Mr. Winegar, I was very frustrated and through the whole situation he didn't get frustrated, he showed me and my family patience and he helped organize the "3rd graduation ceremony." For that I would like to thank him. After that I had left for a moment back to my car in tears. I was called back about 4 minutes later and when I walked back into the courtyard I saw my family, josh and his family (one of the 7 kids not allowed to walk). I would however like to thank Dawn Depner and Stefani Carlson. At our special graduation ceremony they took the time to shake our hands and treated us like we would have been normally. I would also like to thank my coach and teacher Mr. Schlatter, he handed me my diploma cover and shook my hand, he also gave us our right of passage speech when we flipped out tassel from the right to left side. Mr. Winegar also get my thanks as he set up the third graduation and announced our names. Finally I would like to thank coach Stolsig and coach Rhodes they stood, watched and applauded us as we had our opportunity to walk. I would like to say a quick thank you to my friends and family that supported us 7 and thank you to the people who believed in doing the right thing.

*Shawnda Wright*



Kamela Davis <davisk2@canby.k12.or.us>

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## Public Comment

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[REDACTED]  
To: kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 11:30 AM

Good morning Kamela. I would like to submit my below comment to tonight's board meeting. I do not want to read my comments and I would rather not have my name included if possible. I am already receiving backlash on my complaint. Thank you very much!

Good evening Board members. I am speaking out in regards to an incident that happened with a teacher at Canby High School. The teacher's name is [REDACTED]. He has shown disrespect in mine and others beliefs, choices and their character. Due to myself speaking out, I have been considered the problem. Not him. His disrespectful comments towards myself and others have not been taken seriously. Due to that he continues to harass and bully others. Asking about private health information, and commenting about a person's political beliefs is never ok.  
[REDACTED] needs to be investigated as well as his superiors.

Thank you for your time.

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[REDACTED]  
Canby High School

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## Statement I will be reading out loud

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Shawnda Wright <shawnda4OCCA@msn.com>  
To: Kamela Davis <davisk2@canby.k12.or.us>

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 10:04 AM

I'm talking tonight regarding the actions of the Canby High School administration and the superintendent on Friday June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021. 7 young men had their civil rights violated due to not being allowed to graduate with their classmates and treated like criminals. A classmate of theirs tested negative on Thursday June 10<sup>th</sup>, where he was allowed to participate in all the activities for that day, awards ceremony, graduation rehearsal, handprints, at a basketball game, and the senior sunset. On Thursday, let me remind you he was negative! Friday, is the day he tested positive not Thursday. Why were they targeted, I'll tell you why – Don't ever question administration. Which I have done since March. I believe my son in particular was targeted for my questions to administrations, starting with football, then baseball, then track, then graduation – they don't like to be questioned. Friday we were told several times over, "we are following the guidelines set by Clackamas County Health department", I have those documents and it specifically says recommend not required quarantine. I also have the documents that spell out direct contact over 15 minutes, it states that 15 minutes can be accumulated throughout the day. So why were the other students allowed to graduate? Because it is easier to deal with 7 sets of parents rather than 300 sets of parents. If they would have followed their own guidelines, which allowed one of our twins to graduate, these boys would have never been targeted in the first place. With a negative test on Thursday, if they even did their investigation properly, should have not even excluded these young men in the first place, because like Kade being able to walk, they did not have direct contact with a positive person.

Thank you Dawn and Stefani for standing with these boys. Ben Winegar -Thank you for making a 3<sup>rd</sup> ceremony possible, Coach Schlatter – you are so well respected, and these young men were honored it was you giving them their diploma. Coach Stolsig and Coach Rhodes, you two are class acts. Too bad there are only 3 staff members that stayed.

*Shawnda Wright*



Kamela Davis <davisk2@canby.k12.or.us>

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## Canby Schools

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**Trisha Moon** <trishamoongirl@gmail.com>

To: "kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us" <kamela.davis@canby.k12.or.us>

Thu, Jun 17, 2021 at 1:25 PM

To all of the members of our school board and superintendent,

To be read aloud during the school board meeting Thursday June 17th.

I wanted to thank Dawn Depnar and Stefani Carlson as well as the few school employees that stepped up when others weren't there to.

Seven Canby High school students were able to walk across the stage to receive the diploma that they had earned and deserved. They should have been able to walk with their class and not put to the side like they were.

The power and control of a few people in charge almost took that moment from these boys and that was wrong. It should have been handled differently. I look forward to seeing how it will be resolved.

I have two students who could be enrolled in the Canby school district. Only one is enrolled at this time.

We hope to keep our student in the district. At this time we are waiting to hear how next year will look.

With the state opening and rules on masks changing, I look forward to hearing from our Canby School board that our students will not be left behind in this .

Parents like myself are deciding on different school options based on factors such as these. We also look forward to hearing that our students get the five days a week they deserve, while breathing freely as so many other states have allowed their students.

Thank you

Trisha Moon