

## **Exhibit B – Email to School Community**

Dear Members of the Natick School Community,

As you know, the School Committee, its Chair, and the Superintendent have been defendants in a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of certain provisions of the Committee's prior policies concerning the rules for Public Speak, as well as the application of those policies in individual cases. In November 2018, the Middlesex Superior Court ruled that the former policies were unconstitutional in various ways and determined that they had been applied in a manner that violated the free speech rights of the plaintiffs, Corey Spaulding and Karin Sutter.

We are now pleased to announce that the parties have reached a settlement in this matter that includes adoption of a new Public Speak Policy that hopefully will be a model for other communities. In addition, the parties and their counsel, including the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, have agreed to hold a public forum to discuss principles of freedom of speech and the lessons to be learned from this litigation.

The Natick Public Schools acknowledge the flaws of the prior policy and apologize to all individuals who were negatively impacted by it, including Ms. Spaulding and Ms. Sutter. Furthermore, as a learning institution, we look forward to employing a policy and procedures that balances and respects individuals' rights to speak while still protecting the privacy of students and staff.

Please stay tuned for further notice about the scheduling of the public education forum. We look forward to seeing you there and at future School Committee meetings.

Sincerely,