



Council on American-Islamic Relations

CAIR Maryland

6120 Baltimore Natl. Pike, Suite2D

Baltimore, MD 21228

Meetings by Appointment Only

mdoutreach@cair.com | www.cair.com | 410-261-6544

April 1, 2026

Ms. Jessika Boone
Director, Department of Compliance and Investigations
Montgomery County Public Schools
850 Hungerford Drive
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Request for Immediate Administrative Action Pending Investigation - Alleged Discriminatory Conduct

Dear Ms. Boone,

On behalf of the Maryland office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), America's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, I am writing to formally request immediate administrative action in connection with a serious incident involving a teacher at John T. Baker Middle School.

As outlined in our prior correspondence to school administration (attached for your reference), we have received credible reports that a teacher, Ms. McClure, directed a deeply inappropriate and discriminatory remark toward a 14-year-old Muslim Palestinian child during a classroom interaction.

Specifically, CAIR has received a complaint from the family that the teacher asked the student if he is going to "blow [her] up," referencing bombing and current global events. This statement, made in front of classmates, reflects deeply harmful religious and ethnic stereotyping and raises significant concerns about bias, discrimination, and the creation of a hostile educational environment for this and other students.

During a meeting on March 31, 2026 with Dr. Yolanda Allen, Director of Division of School Leadership and Improvement for Montgomery Blair and Damascus Cluster Schools, as well as the school principal Mr. Levine and the student's family, CAIR and the family were informed that based on this discussion, MCPS is re-opening their investigation into the complaint against this teacher.

While we understand that an internal investigation is now once again underway, the seriousness of these allegations warrants immediate interim measures to protect this child and other students and preserve the integrity of the investigative process.

Accordingly, CAIR Maryland respectfully requests that MCPS:

1. Immediately remove the teacher from all direct access to students pending the outcome of the investigation. Allowing continued classroom contact under these circumstances risks further harm to students and undermines confidence in the school system's commitment to student safety and nondiscrimination.

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2. Ensure that the investigation is conducted promptly, thoroughly, and impartially, with appropriate consideration given to the impact of the reported conduct on the student and the broader classroom environment.

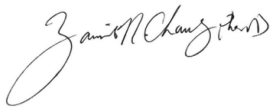
3. Provide written confirmation to our office and the student's family regarding the interim measures taken, as well as an anticipated timeline for the investigation's completion.

This request is not punitive in nature. Rather, it reflects a necessary and standard precaution in cases involving credible allegations of discriminatory conduct by an educator. This student has already suffered mental and emotional distress and has missed several days of classroom instruction. He and all students must be able to attend school free from fear, bias, and humiliation, and families must have confidence that their concerns are treated with the utmost seriousness.

CAIR notes that federal and state civil rights laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion and national origin in public schools. I appreciate MCPS' commitment to a safe and inclusive learning environment.

Given the nature of this matter, I respectfully request a response within three (3) business days. Thank you for your prompt attention to this serious issue. We look forward to your response and to working collaboratively toward a resolution that safeguards the rights and well-being of all students.

Sincerely,



Zainab Chaudry, Pharm.D.
Director, CAIR Maryland
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)

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