

**NATIONAL
COALITION
AGAINST
CENSORSHIP** **YOUTH
FREE
EXPRESSION**

April 20, 2023

Superintendent Jamie Boelter
New London-Spicer School District 345
101 4th Ave SW
New London, MN 56273

Dear Superintendent Boelter,

The National Coalition Against Censorship is an alliance of national nonprofit groups dedicated to protecting freedom of expression, including the rights of K-12 students, teachers and staff. We are writing because we understand that a student at New London-Spicer Middle School has been forbidden from wearing a "Let's Go Brandon" t-shirt, based on the school's policy of prohibiting vulgarity on campus. (The words refer to a vulgar expression of opposition to President Biden.)

While we recognize that the Supreme Court has stated that schools can prohibit political speech on campus that is implicitly vulgar, we are concerned that the decision to prohibit the "Let's Go Brandon" message may be based in part on hostility to the views expressed. Therefore, we are writing to ensure that the school is consistent in how it enforces the ban on explicitly vulgar speech and does not single out views it dislikes.

We urge you to clarify to all students and staff that students have the right to engage in political speech both on and off campus and that all political views must be treated equally.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely yours,



Christine Emeran
Youth Free Expression Program Director
National Coalition Against Censorship