

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Lawsuit Update

United States District Court Eastern District of California Grants the Motion to Dismiss

Chico, CA – On January 13, 2023, Chico Unified received legal notice of a lawsuit, Regino vs. Staley, et. al., filed against the District. John A. Mendez, Senior United States District Judge serving the United States District Court, Eastern District of California, heard the case. Yesterday, July 11, 2023, Judge Mendez dismissed the case against Chico Unified. The Order Granting Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss is attached.

According to the Order, the Court focused on the narrow issue of whether the Federal Constitution provides a parental right to notice and consent in the circumstances such as when a student chooses to gender transition, including using different pronouns.

In the Order, the Court states, “...District staff are not directed to force students to adopt transgender identities or keep their identities secret from their parents. Instead, District staff are directed to affirm a student’s expressed identity and pronouns and disclose that information only to those the student wishes, with an exception for the student’s health. On the Regulation’s face, it is undisputable that the decision to openly express a transgender identity through the use of a different name and pronouns is made by the student, not the District”.

We know there are differing viewpoints as it pertains to this case. Chico Unified appreciates the patience of our community as we worked through the legal process. More importantly, the resolution of this case allows Chico Unified to maintain our focus and financial resources on the education and support of the students in the Chico Unified School District.

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Attachment Included: Court Order