



December 18, 2012

Dr. John B. King, Jr.
Commissioner of Education
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12234

Dear Commissioner King:

Subject: Demand for Removal / Termination of Mr Matthew J. Miller, Teacher, Ravena Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District with Immediate Effect..

This is a demand for the immediate voluntary resignation or in lieu of resignation, termination of Mr Matthew J. Miller, teacher, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School District.

Over the past approximately twelve (12) months it has come to light that Mr Matthew J. Miller has developed a patter of direct or indirect involvement in an unacceptable number of disturbing activities which, in our opinion, render him unfit to be a teacher in the RCS CSD.

By way of example but not by limitation, Mr Matthew J. Miller:

1. Allegedly was directly involved in indiscrete conduct, to wit by his indiscrete statements to minor students in his control Miller was the direct cause of bullying incidents at the RCS high school. There is clear evidence that such indiscretion by Miller resulted in at least on physical attack on a student in the RCS high school.
2. Was recipient of school district funds during his occupancy and tenure as RCS CSD energy manager for which he was paid at least \$10,000 a year since at least about 2007, said position running concurrent with Miller's activities as teacher, for which Miller accepted a full-time equivalent salary in excess of \$88,000 p.a. (he was terminated from the Energy Educator/Manager position by resolution of the RCS CSD board of education in 2012). The fact that Miller willfully and voluntarily entered into this compromised situation represents a serious and reprehensible conflict of interest and creates a situation of dual roles that render Miller unfit to be a role model and moral example to the young people in this district.
3. There is evidence that since Miller's termination from the position as energy manager in the RCS CSD, Miller has conspicuously undertaken a public and private campaign of retaliation and intimidation against the majority members of the RCS CSD board of education, and has conspicuously spared the teacher affiliated members of the minority of the RCS CSD. This conduct is an unmistakable declaration of his partisanship, and makes a clear demonstration of Miller's lack of objectivity and lack of prudence, such deficits rendering him unfit to be a model of ethical and moral conduct for our young people.
4. Is the NYSUT teachers union representative and is on a reduced teaching load of approximately 2.5 h per day, and dedicates the remaining time to his union activities. Miller's union activities are compensated by his teacher salary and are not reimbursed by NYSUT nor by Miller. This state of affairs is an affront to the parents and taxpayers in

this community, and represents a conflict of interest and dual role situation that severely compromises Miller's fitness to be a teacher in this district. This situation represents a serious and reprehensible conflict of interest and creates a situation of dual roles that render Miller unfit to be a role model and moral example to the young people in this district.

5. Has been repeatedly involved in outrageous public attacks on the RCS CSD board of education and on individual members of the RCS CSD board of education that are reprehensible repeated instances of insubordination and disrespect. We feel such conduct in the public arena and such insubordination and disrespect severely compromise Millers fitness to be a teacher in this district and his effectiveness as a role model and moral example to the young people in this district.
6. Miller has publically announced in the presence of students in his charge that he is an atheist. Mr Miller's spiritual or religious beliefs or his denial of same have no place in the classroom, and such conduct is reprehensible, clearly undermining the basic and core values of the majority of parents and residents in this RCS district and community. Such conduct is clear evidence that Miller has no respect for boundaries, an important and indispensable aspect of a competent teacher's skill set. A teacher or school employee who cannot appreciate boundaries should have no direct contact with sensitive and impressionable minds.
7. There is evidence that Miller conspired with others to perpetrate an episode of apparent racial prejudice and discrimination, and further to promote his own and his wife's interest to the detriment of another education professional, to wit, Mr Hakim Jones, an African-American, in that Miller conspired with others to remove Jones from his position as principal at the Pieter B. Coeymans elementary school and to install Karen Miller in that position. Notwithstanding the clear misuse of his position as NYSUT representative in the RCS CSD, the apparent racial discriminatory color of Miller's conduct, the clear and unacceptable misuse of influence and power and the unmistakable nepotistic intent of Millers conduct are sufficient to place Miller's ethics and fitness to be a teacher in serious question. It was only when Mr Jones, after having been subjected to numerous indignities and humiliations, confronted Miller and his minions with a formal grievance, the result of which was Jones' reinstatement to the principalship, the position he holds to this day.
8. Other instances of Miller's misconduct are well known and can be provided on request.

I join this community to strongly object to Matthew J. Miller's continuing employment in this RCS CSD and demand that Matthew J. Miller be offered the opportunity to resign from his teaching position in this district with immediate effect or, in the event of recalcitrance, that Matthew J. Miller be summarily terminated from his position as a teacher in the RCS CSD with revocation or at least suspension of his NY state teaching certificate, with no opportunity to be rehired to any teaching position at least in this BOCES district. I base this demand on well-known instances of misconduct on Miller's part and the fact that the nature of such misconduct renders Miller unfit to be a teacher in this RCS CSD in view of Millers reprehensible conduct and his lack of ethics and moral fiber; I do not feel that such an individual, considering his public figure status, his egregious conflicts of interest, his disrespect for acceptable boundaries, his disrespect and insubordination vis-à-vis the officers elected by this community and district to

make education decisions on our behalf, and Miller's questionable integrity regarding money matters, as well as his dual role status in this district.

The alleged conduct, furthermore, makes Miller unfit as a NYSUT representative. Such behavior as Miller's flies in the face of every concept of good leadership and credibility. The fact that a prestigious union like the New York State United Teachers would accept the representation of such a morally depraved individual does a disservice to its more than 600,000 members. The fact of Miller's representation of the NYSUT calls into question also their good faith vis-à-vis those members and their overall public image.

I have addressed a copy of this letter to the interim superintendent of the RCS CSD schools, Dr Alan McCartney, to the members of the RCS CSD board of education, and to my state and federal legislators.

I would like to thank you in advance for your due attention and timely response to this matter and expect that you will respond to this demand to me in writing in due course.

In the interest of protecting my person and unless expressly authorized by me in writing, I hereby explicitly stipulate that in the event this communication is disclosed by way of example but not by limitation under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Law or in response to court order or discovery request, that all information that may result in identifying my person be definitively redacted prior to disclosure in whole or in part.

Sincerely,



Cc: Dr Alan McCartney, RCS CSD superintendent of schools
Mr John M. Vadney, President, RCS CSD Board of Education
Sitting Board of Education Members
Eric T. Schneiderman, NYS Attorney General
State and Federal Legislators