

Update: Loudoun Public Schools

INFORMATION OFFICE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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LCPS to Appeal Cross Decision

Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) will file an appeal of a June 8 decision in Loudoun County Circuit Court regarding the reinstatement of Leesburg Elementary physical education teacher Byron Tanner Cross.

LCPS respectfully disagrees with the Circuit Court's decision to issue the injunction, and it is appealing this ruling to the Supreme Court of Virginia. Leesburg Elementary School and Loudoun County Public Schools experienced – and continue to experience – significant disruption since the May 25 School Board meeting during which Cross addressed the board. Many students and parents at Leesburg Elementary have expressed fear, hurt and disappointment about coming to school. Addressing those concerns is paramount to the school division's goal to provide a safe, welcoming, and affirming learning environment for all students. While LCPS respects the rights of public-school employees to free speech and free exercise of religion, those rights do not outweigh the rights of students to be educated in a supportive and nurturing environment.