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Newton School Committee Members
MAYOR RUTHANNE FULLER- EX OFFICIO

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NEWTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Article 10 Section 2 of the City of Newton Charter, 50 certified voters may request a Public Hearing of the School Committee to deliberate on actions or measures requested by petitioners. A hearing must be posted 48 hours in advance and held within 3 months of a petition's certification by the City Clerk.

On September 23rd, the City Clerk certified a petition and to meet its public obligations, the School Committee is announcing:

**A Public Hearing on Tuesday November 27th @ 6:30 pm at the
Seasholes Auditorium, Newton South High School 140 Brandeis Road
to hear from all members of the public pursuant to the following request:**

We the undersigned, petition the Newton School Committee to take the following actions:

1. Adopt a policy of total transparency regarding curriculum concerning history, social studies, geography, and any and all topics related to the conflicts in the Middle East and to world religions.
2. Allow the public immediate and continual access to all teaching materials used and discussed in these areas including, but not limited to text books, hand-outs, assignments, films, power-point presentations, speakers, internet resources, and workshops;
3. Vet all teaching materials and approaches concerning the above topics using a panel of scholars, historians and educators.
4. Immediately cease all teaching on these topics until such time as properly vetted, unbiased materials can be identified.
5. Contact students by official mail to explain how some of the materials they were taught qualify as biased and propaganda and were not explained as such to the students, and apologize for these errors;
6. Convene an all-school seminar on "the new anti-Semitism" which makes of the Jewish state, "the Jew among the nations" with special workshops for teachers and students. The new anti-Semitism has been widely studied and consists at base of the treatment of Israel in ways no other nation state is treated;
7. Terminate Superintendent David Fleishman.

An action requested in the petition related to the termination of certain faculty cannot and will not be heard or entertained as the School Committee, by law, has no authority over the termination of faculty.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education:

"The principal is responsible, consistent with district personnel policies and budgetary restrictions, and subject to the approval of the superintendent, for hiring all teachers, instructional or administrative aides and other personnel assigned exclusively to the school, and for terminating all such personnel, subject to review and prior approval by the superintendent and subject to the provisions of state law. (G.L. c. 71, [[section]] 59B)"

All members of the public will be allowed to speak for up to 3 minutes.