



DIOCÈSE OF PEORIA

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

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February 1, 2002

Rev. Msgr. Thomas Maloney
Epiphany Church
1006 E. College Avenue
Normal, IL 61761

Dear Monsignor Maloney:

Our Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, Pat Kawczynski, came to see me today regarding an anonymous phone call she received from a parent at Epiphany School. The parent relayed to her concerns about an incident regarding yourself last week.

According to this woman, you supposedly went to the junior high building to talk with the eighth grade boys about "morality." You took one class of boys and asked the teacher to leave and then locked the classroom door. According to this woman, you spent about two and one half hours with the boys and told them not to talk with anyone about what they talked about or you would expel them. The parent refused to give her name to Pat because she was concerned about "retaliation toward her children".

The woman also cited two incidents last semester which supposedly occurred while you were giving out report cards. On one occasion she said you became angry with the students and stormed out and did not give that class their report cards for almost three days. The other incident she relayed was that you gave one student two dollars for a good report card in front of the other students. She also stated that apparently you are perceived to have favorites with the girls, "especially blond ones." She stated that some parents have called the principal saying that their daughters "felt uncomfortable with you and did not want to be alone with you."

As you can well imagine, I have no idea as to whether and to what degree any of these allegations and concerns are accurate, and since the woman refused to give her name there is no way anyone, including yourself, can respond to her. It is my practice in such situations simply to alert the priest of the anonymous concern and ask him to examine his memory regarding the events in the complaint to see if any of the elements of the complaint are accurate or examine how this person could have misperceived something the priest.

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As I am sure you can appreciate, in the present atmosphere we have to use extreme caution so that no one can even remotely misunderstand our intentions in such delicate areas.

If you have any questions about the matter please feel free to call me or Pat Kawczynski and we would be happy to discuss the matter with you. I really have no other information than what I gave you as I did not speak to the woman who made the complaint. I did think it important to relay the complaint to you since this woman is obviously concerned and could continue to possibly misinterpret your attitude in these situations which could be very damaging on a number of fronts.

Once again, my gratitude for all the work you do at your parish and the vicariate.

With warmest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely in Christ,

Monsignor Steven P. Rohlf, S.T.D.
Administrator of the Diocese

SPR/ps
Most Rev. John J. Myers
Msgr. James F. Campbell