

Date : 9/27/2017 3:16:23 PM

From : "Shaunda Sandford"

To : "Joyce Brown"

Subject : Re: Bree Newsome

I was in the middle of responding to your email, but we all got hers too. ðŸ˜‰

On Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 3:12 PM, Joyce Brown <joyce.brown@acsgmail.net> wrote:

It looks like I may have been the only person to receive the email below.Â Shaunda, would you like me to respond or do you prefer to send all responses.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Grayson Morris** <morris.grayson@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 1:44 PM

Subject: Bree Newsome

To: joyce.brown@ashevillecityschools.net

Hello, I am writing to express that I am very disturbed that activist Bree Newsome was dis-invited to speak to Asheville Middle school. I have no doubt that AMC lauds Martin Luther King and other civil rights activists who were repeatedly arrested and jailed for their brave acts of civil disobedience while white onlookers disapproved. It is easy to look back at activist heroes in the past and see their virtue while it is difficult to look at activist heroes right now and recognize them as such because in reshaping our society they are rocking the boat. And comfortable people in a boat do not appreciate waves. I am asking you to recognize that some people are not in the boat at all. They are trying to get in, and Asheville Middle School is effectively saying, "No thank you. We are not interested in progress, we uphold the status quo. America [with all its white supremacy] is just fine as it is and there is no need for our black students to have a modern day civil rights activist visit their school and speak to them. This is B.S.Â

The principal cited the fact that Bree Newsome was arrested for civil disobedience when in fact Terry Van Duyn (a white woman) has visited and spoken with students after having been arrested for civil disobedience.

Please put your money where your mouth is and stand up for black students and black lives and black values instead of just paying them lip service.

Sincerely,

Grayson Morris

Asheville Preschool Teacher

--

Joyce Brown,

The Asheville City Board of Education

--

Shaunda Sandford

Board Chair

Asheville City Schools

cell: 828-273-9445

"We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today."

