

WASHINGTON



As a Washington Post subscriber, you can view this content for free.

POLITICS LOCAL ▾ NATIONAL WORLD ▾ OPINIONS ▾ A&E ▾ LIFESTYLE ▾ HEALTH ▾

HOMEPAGE NEWS

# Stafford schools superintendent a to trans student

Middle schooler separated from classmates during lockdown drill

Published 4 years ago on October 10, 2018

By **Michael K. Lavers** 



The superintendent of the Stafford County School District on Oct. 9, 2018, said he has personally apologized to a transgender middle school student who was separated from her classmates during a

lockdown drill.

The superintendent of the Stafford County School District has apologized to a transgender student who was unable to enter the girls' or boys' locker room during a lockdown drill.

The Free Lance-Star newspaper [reported](#) Scott Kizner spoke at the Stafford County School Board's meeting on Tuesday.

Kizner said he personally apologized to the trans middle school student for the incident that took place on Sept. 28.

"We did not live up to my unwavering expectation that every child and adult — regardless of race, religion, color, disability, gender and sexual orientation — is treated with respect and dignity and for that I apologize to the student, the family and the Stafford community," Kizner, [according to the Free Lance-Star](#).

The incident received national attention after Equality Stafford, a local LGBT advocacy group, wrote about it on Facebook on Oct. 3.

"The student was forced to watch the adults charged with her care, debate the safest place for her (among the other students) to have her shelter," read the Facebook post. "During this debate, the student was instructed to sit in the gym with a teacher until the drill was complete, away from her peers and identified as different. After some additional debate, she was made to sit in the locker room hallway, by the door away from her peers. This happened because the child, in addition to being a model student, also happens to be transgender."

**Equality Stafford**  
about 4 years ago



Equality Stafford Community,

This past week, an incident occurred during a middle school lockdown drill in Stafford County. When the drill began, a particular class of children took shelter in the bathroom/locker room nearest them as they were in PE. One student was prevented from entering either the boys or girls locker room while the teachers discussed where she should go. The student was forced to watch the adults charged with her care, debate the safest place (for the student) to be. ... [See more](#)

306

567

1.3K

Local LGBT activists attended Tuesday's meeting. The Free Lance-Star [reported](#) a number of trans people spoke.

The Stafford County School District does not include gender identity and sexual orientation in its non-discrimination policy. The Free Lance-Star [reported](#) both Kizner and members of the Stafford County School Board said during Tuesday's meeting they are open to potential changes.

The mother of a Stafford County Public Schools student who asked the Washington Blade to identify them by name said Kizner's apology "is very much appreciated."

"Words are powerful, but it's action that is meaningful and long lasting," she said. "We're moving forward working with Dr. Kizner and the board to implement the inclusive policies and trainings that were promised."

**RELATED TOPICS:** #EQUALITY STAFFORD #SCOTT KIZNER #STAFFORD COUNTY  
#STAFFORD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #TRANSGENDER #VIRGINIA

#### DON'T MISS



**La iglesia en Cuba donde Dios ama a los gays**

#### UP NEXT

**Activists warn of hidden provision in insurance plans for HIV drugs**

#### YOU MAY LIKE



**Fairfax school board approves family planning benefits for LGBTQ employees, staff**



**'Raven's Home' introduces first trans character in Disney Channel history**



**British Triathlon bans trans women from competing with women**

# Former Ambassador Daniel Baer explains all on Ukraine crisis

Expert downplays strategic thinking behind Putin's move

Published 5 months ago on February 23, 2022

By **Chris Johnson** 



Daniel Baer served as U.S. ambassador to the Organization for Security & Cooperation in Europe. (Blade file photo by Michael Key)

Daniel Baer, who worked on LGBTQ human rights and transatlantic issues as one of several openly gay U.S. ambassadors during the Obama administration, answered questions from Washington Blade on Ukraine as the international crisis continues to unfold.

Topics during the interview, which took place weeks ago on Jan. 27, included Putin's motivation for Russian incursions, the risk of outright war, predictions for Russia after Putin and how the crisis would affect LGBTQ people in Ukraine.

Baer was deputy assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights & Labor and U.S. ambassador to the Organization of Security & Cooperation in Europe.

[CONTINUE READING](#)*HOMEPAGE NEWS*

# Trump ribbed Pence for thinking 'it's a crime to be gay,' new book says

Former president openly wanted gay Fox News analyst for Supreme Court

Published 5 months ago on February 8, 2022

By **Chris Johnson** 



Donald Trump (left) ribbed former Vice President Mike Pence (center) in a meeting with Andrew Napolitano for thinking "it's a crime to be gay," new book says (Blade photos of Donald Trump and Mike Pence by Michael Key; screen capture of Andrew Napolitano via Fox News YouTube)

Donald Trump, in the days before he took office after the 2016 election, openly contemplated naming an openly gay Fox News contributor to the U.S. Supreme Court amid concerns from social conservatives about his potential choices and ribbed former Vice President Mike Pence for thinking “it’s a crime to be gay,” according to the new book “[Insurgency](#)” detailing the former president’s path to the White House.

The key moment between Trump, Judge Andrew Napolitano and Pence took place during the transition period after the 2016 election when Trump invited the other two for a meeting at Trump Tower. That’s when Trump reportedly took the jab at Pence.

CONTINUE READING

---

## HOMEPAGE NEWS

# Human Rights Campaign’s ex-president sued over termination, alleges racial discrimination

Alphonso David alleges he was terminated unfitly

Published 5 months ago on February 3, 2022

By **Chris Johnson** 



Alphonso David, the former president of the Human Rights Campaign terminated by the board after he was ensnared in the Gov. Andrew Cuomo scandal, sued the nation's leading LGBTQ group on Thursday, arguing he was fired as a result of racial discrimination "amid deserved reputation for unequal treatment of its non-white employees" and was explicitly told he was paid less because he's Black.

David, speaking with the Washington Blade on Thursday during a phone interview, said he came to the decision to file the lawsuit after practicing civil rights law for 20 years and "never thought that I would be a plaintiff."

**CONTINUE READING**

**POPULAR**



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA / 6 days ago

**Fla. judge allows Brett Parson to return to D.C. while awaiting trial**



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA / 6 days ago

**Gay Libertarian Party activist wins D.C. primary as write-in candidate**



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA / 6 days ago

**D.C. man convicted in gay love triangle murders as he awaits trial**



VIRGINIA / 3 days ago

**Youngkin: Marriage equality is ‘the law’ in Va.**



EUROPE / 6 days ago

**Slovenia Constitution could become a**



OUT & ABOUT / 6 days ag

**Hair and Heels weel Rehoboth**

WASHINGTON

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS/GETTY IMAGES



ABOUT   ADVERTISE   CONTACT US   FIND A COPY   CLASSIFIEDS   PRIVACY POLICY

© Copyright Brown, Naff, Pitts Omnimedia, Inc. 2021. All rights reserved.