



Marie McMullan &lt;marie.mcmullan@fire.org&gt;

---

**Letter from the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression, May 6, 2026**

---

**Courtney Goode** <cgoode@tamdistrict.org>  
To: Marie McMullan <marie.mcmullan@fire.org>  
Cc: bpayne@tamdistrict.org

Thu, May 14, 2026 at 9:56 PM

Dear Ms. McMullan,

Thank you for your follow-up letter regarding The Redwood Bark.

Tamalpais Union High School District remains fully committed to student free expression rights consistent with California law. The Redwood Bark is a student-run publication, and student editors make the decisions about what they publish.

To be clear, The Bark has not been punished for publishing the February 2026 cover photo, and there will be no disciplinary action or punitive consequence related to that publication. There is no investigation regarding the cover image.

While we respectfully disagree with certain characterizations and legal conclusions in your letter, the District does have an obligation under state and federal law to review concerns raised through established complaint processes. Fulfilling that responsibility should not be interpreted as limiting student editorial independence or student press rights. In this matter, no finding was made that the student publication violated District policy or law, and no action has been taken to restrict the Bark's editorial independence.

We appreciate your interest in this matter. The District considers this issue resolved and remains focused on supporting students and student journalism moving forward.

Sincerely,

Courtney

**Courtney Goode, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent  
Tamalpais Union High School District  
(415) 945-1021  
cgoode@tamdistrict.org



On Tue, May 12, 2026 at 8:40 AM Marie McMullan <marie.mcmullan@fire.org> wrote:

| [Quoted text hidden]

image.png