

'Silent Night' Silent No More



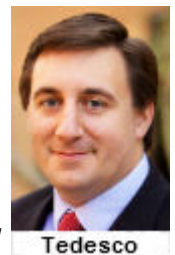
On October 8, Todd Starnes at Fox News reported that the Wausau, Wis. School District was cracking down on the religious music performed at Christmas concerts. They proposed three options: 1. A strict five-to-one ratio of secular to sacred songs, 2. Eliminate all sacred songs, or 3. Postpone the December concerts.

In response, choir director Phil Buch announced the terms were unacceptable and that he was temporarily disbanding the school's elite choir.

"This group sings at Christmas programs," he said. "We sing for nursing homes, grade schools, businesses. To do that without Christmas music doesn't make sense."

The district also defended the cancellation of all elementary school Christmas programs and said it had nothing to do with religion. They said teachers needed more class time to prepare the children for testing.

However, today OneNewsNow reported that after the parents and community raised their voices, the school district "backed off that completely" and are "going to do the right thing," ADF attorney Jeremy Tedesco explained. The school district will now allow principals and music directors the freedom to determine music in programs.



Tedesco says it's unfortunate that many public school administrators and school boards believe that religious songs can't be performed at public schools. "Every court that's looked at this issue has said as long as those songs are included as part of an objective aspect of a holiday or Christmas program, it's not constitutionally problematic," say Tedesco.

The FAmiLY LEADER encourages parents and everyday citizens to consider running for school board because these decisions directly impact the education of the next generation. This story also shows that by working together, you can make a positive, conservative difference in your community.

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