

Teaching Them to Fly

September 18, 2018

Dr. Thomas Burkett Executive Chairman, VISAA Banner Christian School 1501 S Providence Road Richmond, VA 23236

Dr. Burkett,

Williamsburg Christian Academy stands in full support of the statements and recommendations by Mrs. Carroll forwarded to the VISAA Executive Board with regards to the decision to disallow the use of the Liberty University Natatorium for VISAA Championship Meets. The action taken by the VISAA Executive Committee seems to exceed the scope of VISAA with regards to its duties to the body of its member academic institutions, both religious or secular. The decision towards Liberty University sends a dangerous precedent of discrimination against those of faith and their beliefs to which they are entitled. WCA is concerned that this discriminatory action may eventually present itself in other forms against individual member schools and even athletes themselves who hold beliefs that are not consistent with those of the VISAA Executive Board.

Furthermore, it is clear that VISAA is alone in their fear of offense in the utilization of Liberty's facilities. Both the NCAA and USA Swimming have both held multiple events at the facility, which have not raised even the smallest bit of controversy concerning Liberty's moral views. The Commonwealth Games similarly chose Liberty as its host institution in 2018. Their lack of concern most likely stems from the fact that Liberty in no way expresses any hatred or malice toward any individual or subset of individuals. They are simply their beliefs, beliefs to which they are entitled.

WCA stands in support of Mrs. Carroll's proposed resolutions to the VISAA Executive Committee, and hope that the Committee will prioritize their decision based on the VISAA mission, to be an organization that provides the resources and competitive environment in education-based programs that establish a foundation for excellence based on integrity, sportsmanship and leadership.

Respectfully,

Rob Campbell Head of Administration