



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Brevard Community to Host “Stand with Calhoun” Strategy Session Ahead of Tuesday’s School Board Meeting

Melbourne, FL – On Tuesday, May 6, students, educators, parents, and allies from across Brevard County will gather outside the Brevard County School Board building for a “Stand with Calhoun” strategy session and rally. **The event, led by local students, will take place from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at 2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, just ahead of the board meeting at 5:30 p.m.**

The community is mobilizing in support of Ms. Calhoun, a Satellite High School teacher who was threatened with contract non-renewal after using a student’s preferred name. Two weeks ago, Brevard students spearheaded a similar action, filling the boardroom with powerful public comments and keeping the meeting going until nearly midnight.

“Ms. Calhoun’s case represents something much bigger than a contract decision,” said Amy Roub, Florida Defense of Democracy. “This is about what kind of classroom environment we want for our kids—and what kind of educators we’re willing to lose if we continue down this path.”

The event will include a public comment training and organizing session facilitated by The Social Equity through Education (SEE) Alliance, a youth-led, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports young leaders and their communities in school board organizing across Florida. After the strategy session, attendees will rally in front of the school board building in solidarity with Ms. Calhoun and to highlight that Brevard stands for inclusive education and the teachers who provide it.

The organizing effort has gained national momentum, with backing from Equality Florida, the National Parents Union, and GLSEN Central Florida. **More than 50,000 people have signed a petition** calling for the renewal of Ms. Calhoun’s contract.

More information is available at: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DJPDkYWN1mL/>

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