

# Teachers Say the Darndest Things - Again

A school district attorney's and school employee attorney's perspectives on the First Amendment line between school employees' speech as public employees and private citizens  
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“Well, I shan’t go, at any rate,” said Alice: “besides, that’s not a regular rule: you invented it just now.”

"It’s the oldest rule in the book," said the King.

"Then it ought to be Number One," said Alice.

Lewis Carroll, *Through the Looking Glass*



## Online Speech by Teachers



## Online Speech by Teachers:

*Munroe v. Central Bucks Sch. Dist.*, 805 F.3d 454 (3d Cir. 2015)

- High school English teacher
- Started a blog entitled *Where are we going, and why are we in this handbasket?*
  - Did not expressly identify either where she worked or lived, the name of the school where she taught, or the names of her students.
  - Claimed her blog was meant to be viewed by friends that she had asked to subscribe - did not intend for it to be read by the public at large.
  - For most of its existence, only had nine (9) subscribers

*Munroe v. Central Bucks Sch. Dist.*, 805 F.3d  
454 (3d Cir. 2015)

At the top of her January 20, 2010 blog post, there was a depiction of a school bus with a “Short Bus” sign and the following heading:

**“I DON’T CARE IF YOU LICK THE WINDOWS, TAKE THE SPECIAL BUS OR OCCASSIONALLY PEE ON YOURSELF ... YOU HANG IN THERE SUNSHINE, YOU’RE FRIGGIN SPECIAL.”**



*Munroe v. Central Bucks Sch. Dist.*, 805 F.3d  
454 (3d Cir. 2015)

- “I’m being a renegade right now, living on the edge and, um, blogging AT work...However, as I’m blogging about work stuff, I give myself a free pass of conscience.”
- “Also, as the kids get worse and worse, I find that the canned comments don’t accurately express my true sentiments about them...if it’s a kid that has no personality, I’ll put ‘ability to work independently.’”

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"Teachers Say The Darndest Things—Again"