

# Community being divided

To the editor:

Recent letters to the editor regarding the Kiel School Board have accused the current board members of following a "playbook."

This is not only a false accusation, it is the pot calling the kettle black. The accusers are the ones who stick to a politically extreme playbook, one designed to mislead and divide our community through misinformation, deception and fear-based tactics. Their political action committee (PAC), "Citizens for Authentic Pride" (or "CFAP"), lacks transparency but not cash (some are funded by national committees, who probably don't even know where Kiel is, let alone understand our concerns). CFAP and their three candidates are further aligned with local organizations including Tri-County Citizens, Patriots of Kiel, and the Real Patriots of Kiel, groups which operate in secretive ways, in nonpublic groups and closed meetings. It seems they have a lot to hide.

The CFAP candidates' collective message appears to be all about "community values," but look closer. In reality they are following a script of politicized talking points about international issues like COVID, race and gender in order to scare and intimidate folks into voting for their candidates. Their goal?

To control school board policy and ultimately defund public schools in favor of charter schools.

Kiel residents: please be aware of this group's misleading extremist tactics. Don't let this PAC and their candidates divide us.

To vote for the CFAP candidates is to welcome the collapse of our public schools. Teachers have expressed such grave concern over what the CFAP candidates represent that they will seek employment elsewhere. What then? Parents and children will leave the district, funding will decrease, and KASD will be replaced by charter schools. Who profits from charter schools? Not our community.

Kiel residents: your vote is needed on April 5. Let us come together as a community to stand against this unwanted politically extreme national presence. Big politics is worse than big government. Kiel has in the past and will continue to achieve great things for our future generations if we are united. I ask those who truly stand for the children and the KASD community to vote for Philip Schaefer, Tony Johannes and Dan Dietrich in the School Board election April 5.

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Kiel