

PARENTAL RIGHTS LETTER TO SCHOOL TEMPLATE, March 2026

*Copy/Paste this template to send to your K-12 school via email **and** certified mail for a record.*

*CC the school board, your district superintendent (if not the primary recipient),
and perhaps your Illinois state representative or senator.*

Attach the Supreme Court opinion PDF or the Thomas More Society summary for reference.

Illinois-specific note: Some districts follow ISBE non-regulatory guidance or local procedures that prioritize student privacy in gender-related matters. This template highlights the federal constitutional precedent to encourage alignment with parental rights.

Subject: Important Notification: U.S. Supreme Court Ruling on Parental Rights in Schools – Mirabelli v. Bonta (March 2, 2026) – Implications for Illinois Public Schools

Dear [Principal’s Name / Superintendent’s Name / School Board Members],

I am writing as a parent of [child’s full name], who is in [grade] at [school name] in the [school district name] School District.

I wanted to inform you of a landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision issued today that directly addresses parental rights and school policies regarding students’ gender identity and social transitions.

In *Mirabelli v. Bonta*, the Supreme Court ruled 6-3 (per curiam) that policies requiring schools to secretly facilitate children’s gender transitions—without notifying parents and often by using different names and pronouns behind parents’ backs—likely violate the U.S. Constitution. Specifically, the Court held that these policies infringe on parents’ rights under the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment and the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Key language from the opinion includes:

“California’s policies...cut out the primary protectors of children’s best interests: their parents.”

The ruling reinstates a class-wide injunction protecting parents statewide in California and sets a clear nationwide precedent. It reaffirms that parents—not schools or the state—hold the fundamental right to direct the upbringing, education, and mental-health decisions of their children, including decisions involving gender identity and social transitioning at school.

Full details and opinion:

- [Thomas More Society announcement \(lead counsel\): https://www.thomasmoresociety.org/news/u-s-supreme-court-delivers-historic-groundbreaking-victory-for-parental-rights-dismantles-californias-secret-gender-transition-regime](https://www.thomasmoresociety.org/news/u-s-supreme-court-delivers-historic-groundbreaking-victory-for-parental-rights-dismantles-californias-secret-gender-transition-regime)
- [Official Supreme Court opinion \(25A810\): https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/25a810_b97d.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/25a810_b97d.pdf)

While the case originated in California, the constitutional principles it upholds apply nationwide, including in Illinois. Illinois schools operate under federal constitutional requirements, and some districts (including guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education and policies in places like Chicago Public Schools) have procedures that emphasize student privacy regarding gender identity, which can limit or condition parental involvement unless the student consents or parents are already aware.

The Supreme Court's decision strengthens the expectation of parental transparency and involvement in such significant matters affecting a child's well-being.

In light of this historic ruling, I respectfully ask that you and the [school district name] review all relevant policies—including those related to gender support plans, name/pronoun use, facility access, and confidentiality—to ensure full compliance with these constitutional protections. Parents across the country, including in Illinois, now have strong Supreme Court backing for the expectation of transparency and the right to be informed about matters involving their child's expressed gender identity or social transitioning at school.

I would appreciate a written response confirming:

1. That [school/district] does not maintain, and will not enforce, any policy, procedure, or practice that withholds information from parents about a student's expressed gender identity, requested name or pronoun changes, social transitioning, or related accommodations at school without parental knowledge or involvement.
2. That staff will promptly notify parents of any such matters involving their own child.
3. A copy of the current policies, administrative procedures, or guidance on student gender identity, social transitioning, gender support plans, parental notification/involvement, and confidentiality.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue and for your ongoing partnership with families in supporting the well-being of all students. I look forward to your prompt reply within 10 business days and remain available to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

[Your full name]

[Your phone number]

[Your email address]

Parent of [child's name], [grade] at [school name]