

# CATHOLIC KID SCOLDED FOR PATRIOTIC SPEECH?

*Bill Donohue wants to share with the public his letter to the principal of a Catholic school. If you would like to contact the school, here is its email address:*  
[office@stbonaventureschool.org](mailto:office@stbonaventureschool.org)

May 22, 2024

Ms. Mary Flock  
Principal  
St. Bonaventure Catholic School  
16377 Bradbury Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Dear Principal Flock:

News reports say that you ordered a middle-school student, Jimmy Heyward, to remove from a speech he planned to give “all parts about patriotism.” His speech reportedly speaks positively about veterans, the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance.

In a statement issued by your school to the media, it says that “school administrators felt encouraged by the words of patriotism but were discouraged by what is perceived as some negative comments and sought adjustments to make it more positive.”

I am a veteran. I am also the president and CEO of the nation’s largest Catholic civil rights organization. Accordingly, I would like you to share with me, and with the

public, precisely which parts of the speech you found objectionable.

Sincerely,

William A. Donohue, Ph.D.  
President