

Patriotic Teens Revolt After School Cancels 'America Day'

Patriotic teenagers in Jackson Hole, Wyoming showed up to class Wednesday waving American flags in defiance of educators who canceled "America Day" over fears it might upset students who don't consider themselves to be American.

Administrators at Jackson Hole High School pulled the plug on "America Day"—citing concerns that celebrating the USA would alienate some of their young people, the *Jackson Hole Daily* reported.

Activities Director Mike Hansen said that a number of students did not feel American and felt "targeted and singled out by this day."

"America Day" was part of a homecoming tradition at the high school. Students would show up to class either waving American flags or wearing red, white and blue clothing.

"Many different students could have felt singled out," Hansen told the newspaper. "We're trying to be inclusive and safe (and) make everyone feel welcome."

Principal Scott Crisp echoed those concerns, telling the newspaper that they wanted the homecoming activities to "bring our students together holistically as a student body."

You'd expect that kind of academic hog wash in Berkeley, California—but Jackson Hole, Wyoming?

The newspaper reported that a number of juniors and seniors protested "political correctness" by showing up to school wrapped in American flags.

And at least one Son of Liberty flew Old Glory from his diesel truck—which I'm sure drew the ire of environmentalists.

"It's homecoming week and our school administration thought it was too 'offensive' to have an America Pride Day," parent Ted Dawson wrote on Facebook. "Where have we gone so wrong! I don't care what race or religion you are, you live here, benefit from the schools, enjoy tax benefits or whatever—your (sic) an American or at least you better be."

One liberal actually thought the school's decision to cancel America Day was appropriate.

"Unchecked nationalism is not a great thing and has historically resulted in gross atrocities here and elsewhere," the unnamed woman wrote on Facebook.

I wish I could say what happened in Jackson Hole was an anomaly. However, there are many other public schools engaged in similar anti-American behavior.

There was a school system in Tennessee that banned the American flag. There was a school district in Massachusetts that banned a day to celebrate the Land of the Free. And there was a California school district that prohibited American flag T-shirts on Cinco de Mayo.

The New York Post called Jackson Hole's anti-American activities a "pathetic and perverse ban on patriotism."

"The right response would've been to explain to those teens that they are Americans—as entitled to take pride in this nation and its flag as kids whose forebears have been here for generations," the newspaper's editorial board wrote.

There was a time when immigrants came to America because they loved freedom. They loved this land of opportunity. They wanted a better life for their children. But I'm afraid those days may be long gone.

And I suspect we would be a much better country if we gave all the America-haters the heave-ho.