

Hello Lowell Community,

We are writing this as the leaders of the Jew Crew and Middle Eastern North African (MENA) club at Lowell High School regarding the recent inaccurate article published by *The SF Standard*, “*Lowell High bars pro-Israel speaker invited by Jewish student club*” on October 30th. This article lacks the perspectives of the Lowell community as a whole, including Lowell Jew Crew board members, the Lowell MENA board members, and other administrators. We would like to clear up some of the inaccurate information that was released.

Firstly, the Leadership of the Jew Crew board were still discussing whether or not to have this speaker come to Lowell at the publishing of this article. Ultimately, the Jew Crew board leadership decided against inviting Luai Ahmed to speak at the school due to his controversial online presence. Lowell Jew Crew and MENA have had multiple joint meetings and discussions and have developed a mutual understanding with one another.

Second, we do not feel that hosting Ahmed would foster solidarity amongst our club members. We feel that the article written by *The Standard* does not support our goal of community and unity between MENA and Jew Crew. We are trying to create an environment where everyone feels seen, heard, and safe. This type of publicity may also discourage students from attending meetings and uniting with their peers.

Jew Crew and MENA have engaged in productive dialogue and addressed any misunderstandings and harm caused by past actions, and have continued to move forward to build bridges between their communities.

Lowell Jew Crew and MENA have actively been growing and fostering a good relationship among our clubs. We stand together in condemnation of this article’s lack of perspective. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Best regards,

Lowell Jew Crew Presidents and Lowell MENA Presidents