

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, 8TH FLOOR
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-3921



Scott Schoonmaker
Superintendent
North Branford Public Schools
Central Office
P.O. Box 129
1332 Middletown Ave.
Northford, CT 06472

Re: Complaint No. 01-14-1169

Dear Superintendent Schoonmaker:

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is closing its investigation of the above-referenced complaint filed against North Branford Public Schools (District) alleging discrimination based on race. Specifically, the Complainant alleged that she reported multiple incidents of racial harassment of her daughter (Student) by a classmate, and the District failed to address the alleged harassment.

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 100 (Title VI), which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. The District is subject to Title VI because it receives Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education.

OCR proceeded to investigate the following legal issue:

Whether the Student was subjected to a race-based hostile environment and, if so, whether the District responded inadequately, in violation of 34 C.F.R. Section 100.3(a) and (b).

Prior to completion of the investigation, the District expressed an interest in voluntarily resolving the allegation through the enclosed Resolution Agreement. Accordingly, OCR is closing the investigative phase of this complaint effective the date of this letter. Consistent with OCR's practice, we will monitor the District's implementation of the Resolution Agreement.

We would like to thank the District, MX. XXXXXXXXXXXXX, and MX. XXXXXXXXXXXXX for assisting with this investigation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact investigator Molly O'Halloran at (617) 289-0058 or molly.o'halloran@ed.gov, or attorney Sandy Lin at (617) 289-0095 or sandy.lin@ed.gov. You may also contact me at (617) 289-0037.

Sincerely,

/s/
Joel J. Berner
Regional Director

Enclosure