

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

THE WANAMAKER BUILDING, SUITE 515 100 PENN SQUARE EAST PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107-3323 REGION III DELAWARE KENTUCKY MARYLAND PENNSYLVANIA WEST VIRGINIA

## September 19, 2014

## IN RESPONSE, PLEASE REFER TO: 03131180

Mr. M. Sean Horne Office of the Superintendent Russell Independent Schools 409 Belfont St. Russell, Kentucky 41169

Dear Mr. Horne:

This is to notify you of the resolution of the above-referenced complaint filed with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) against the Russell Independent School District (the District). XXXXXX (the Complainant) alleged that the District discriminated against his client, XXXXXX (the Student), on the basis of race (XXXXXX) and national origin (XXXXXX). The Complainant also alleged that due to the Student's complaints of race and national origin discrimination, the District retaliated against the Student. Specifically, the Complainant alleged that the District:

- 1. XXXXXX; and
- 2. XXXXXXX.

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, and its implementing regulation, 34 C.F.R. Part 100 (Title VI). Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin by recipients of Federal financial assistance. Because the District receives Federal financial assistance from the Department, it is subject to Title VI. Additional information about the laws OCR enforces is available on our website at <a href="http://www.ed.gov/ocr">http://www.ed.gov/ocr</a>.

Under OCR procedures, a complaint may be resolved before the conclusion of an investigation if a recipient asks to resolve the complaint by signing a Resolution Agreement. The provisions of the Resolution Agreement must be aligned with the information obtained during the investigation and be consistent with applicable regulations. Such a request does not constitute an admission of a violation on the part of the District, nor does it constitute a determination by OCR of any violation of our regulations.

Consistent with OCR's procedures, the District requested to resolve the complaint through a Resolution Agreement. On September 18, 2014, the District signed this Agreement. As is our standard practice, OCR will monitor the 's implementation of the Agreement, a copy of which is enclosed. Accordingly, OCR is concluding its investigation of these allegations and closing this complaint as of the date of this letter.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. In the event that OCR receives such a request, we will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information, which, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Please be advised that the District may not harass, coerce, intimidate, or discriminate against any individual because he or she has filed a complaint or participated in the complaint resolution process. If this happens, the Complainant may file another complaint alleging such treatment.

If you have any questions or concerns about our determination, please call me at (215) 656-8535.

Sincerely,

Rhasheda S. Douglas Team Leader

Enclosure

CC: Michael Schmitt