



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS -- REGION VII

September 3, 2014

XXXXXX X XXXXX, XXXXX XXXXX

Blue Springs R-IV School District
1801 NW Vesper
Blue Springs, Missouri 64015

Re: OCR Docket # 07141102

Dear Mr. XXXXX:

On March 7, 2014, the U.S. Department of Education (Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received a complaint against Blue Springs R-IV School District (District), Blue Springs, Missouri, alleging discrimination on the basis of race. This letter is to confirm the District has voluntarily submitted a Resolution Agreement (Agreement) to resolve this complaint.

The complainant alleged the District discriminated against her daughter on the basis of race by:

1. failing to appropriately address and remedy the racially hostile environment created by students calling her daughter demeaning names based on her race; and
2. failing to appropriately address and remedy the racially hostile environment created by another student who assaulted her daughter XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX and harassing her because of her race.

OCR is responsible for enforcing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, and its implementing regulation, 34 C.F.R. Part 100. Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin by recipients of Federal financial assistance.

As a recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Department, the District is subject to Title VI. Additional information about OCR and the laws OCR enforces is available on our website at <http://www.ed.gov/ocr>.

ONE PETTICOAT LANE, 1010 WALNUT STREET, SUITE 320, KANSAS CITY, MO 64106
www.ed.gov

Prior to the completion of OCR's investigation, the District submitted a signed Agreement (copy enclosed) on September 3, 2014, that, when fully implemented, will address the allegations of this complaint. The Agreement requires the District to train District employees regarding race discrimination and harassment, and conduct a climate survey to assess the presence and effect of harassment. Please consult the Agreement for further details.

OCR considers the allegations of this complaint resolved effective the date of this letter and will monitor the District's implementation of the Agreement. When OCR concludes the District has fully implemented the terms of the Agreement, OCR will close the complaint. If the District fails to carry out the Agreement, OCR may resume the investigation.

This letter sets forth OCR's determination in an individual OCR case. This letter is not a formal statement of OCR policy and should not be relied upon, cited, or construed as such. OCR's formal policy statements are approved by a duly authorized OCR official and made available to the public. The complainant may have the right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

OCR is committed to prompt and effective service. If you have any questions, please contact XXXXX XXXXX, Equal Opportunity Specialist, (816) 268-XXXX (voice) or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or by email at XXXXX.XXXXX@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Joshua Douglass
Supervisory Attorney

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Chris Nicastro
Commissioner of Education