



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

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ATLANTA, GA 30303-8927

REGION IV
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
GEORGIA
TENNESSEE

November 15, 2022

By email only to: XXXX

Dr. Daniel Castagna
Superintendent
Woodland Hills School District
531 Jones Avenue
North Braddock, PA 15104

Re: OCR Docket No. 03-22-1386
Woodland Hills School District, Pennsylvania

Dear Superintendent Castagna:

This letter is to advise you of the resolution of the above-referenced complaint, filed on August 26, 2022, against the Woodland Hills School District (the District), with the U.S. Department of Education (the Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), alleging discrimination on the basis of disability for failing to afford persons with disabilities an opportunity to participate in and benefit from the services, programs, and activities communicated through the District's website and through third party hosts that is equal to opportunities afforded to others. Specifically, the Complainant alleged that webpages with information about the new 2022-2023 school year, schedules, building hours, COVID reporting, school policies, and safety alerts contained barriers to access for people with disabilities.

OCR enforces Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 104, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department. OCR also enforces Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Title II) and its implementing regulation at 28 C.F.R. Part 35, which prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities by public entities, including public education systems and institutions, regardless of whether they receive Federal financial assistance from the Department.

OCR conducted an assessment of the District's online programs, services, and activities and noted possible compliance concerns including, but not limited to:

- Documents provided in portable document format (pdf) were inaccessible to people with vision disabilities who use screen readers.
- Important graphics, images, and links were missing meaningful alternative text, posing a barrier to people with vision disabilities who use screen readers.
- Links were not meaningfully labeled or titled, posing a barrier to people with vision disabilities who use screen readers.

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

www.ed.gov

On October 27, 2022, the District signed the enclosed resolution agreement (Agreement) to voluntarily resolve the complaint pursuant to Section 302 of OCR's *Case Processing Manual*. OCR will monitor the implementation of the Agreement.

This concludes OCR's investigation. This letter should not be interpreted to address the District's compliance with any other regulatory provision or to address any issues other than those addressed in this letter. This letter sets forth OCR's determination in an individual OCR investigation. 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. An individual may have the right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. If OCR receives such a request, we will seek to protect personally identifiable information that could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if released, to the extent provided by law.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 987-1868 or Miyong.Loughlin@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Miyong Loughlin
Attorney

Enclosure

Courtesy copy by email only to:

Jonathan Kim
Director of Technology
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