

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, REGION IV

REGION IV ALABAMA FLORIDA GEORGIA TENNESSEE

61 FORSYTH ST., SOUTHWEST, SUITE 19T10 ATLANTA, GA 30303-8927

July 13, 2018

Re: OCR Complaint # 04-18-1346

## Dear XXXXXXXX:

The U.S. Department of Education (Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), has concluded its investigation of the above-referenced complaint received by this office on March 14, 2018, alleging discrimination on the basis of disability by Monroe County Schools (District). Specifically, the Complainant alleged that the District discriminated against her son (Student), who is a student at XXXXXXXX School (School), by failing to respond appropriately to reports of a group of male students bullying and harassing the Student by threatening "to jump" him because of his disabilities.

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OCR is responsible for enforcing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), 29 U.S.C. § 794, and its implementing regulation, 34 C.F.R. Part 104, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability by recipients of Federal financial assistance; and, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Title II), 42 U.S.C. § 12131, and its implementing regulation, 28 C.F.R. Part 35, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities.

Prior to the completion of OCR's investigation, the District requested to voluntarily resolve this complaint. Pursuant to Section 302 of OCR's Case Processing Manual, a complaint may be resolved, before the conclusion of an investigation, when the recipient or public entity expresses an interest in resolving the complaint. The attached Resolution Agreement (Agreement) will require the District to take actions to remedy any compliance concerns regarding compensatory education services.

On July 12, 2018, OCR received the enclosed signed Agreement that, when fully implemented, will resolve the complaint. OCR will monitor the District's implementation of this Agreement to ensure that it is fully implemented. If the District fails to fully implement the Agreement, OCR will reopen the case and take appropriate action to ensure compliance with Section 504. The Complainant may file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

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Please be advised that the District may not harass, coerce, 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.

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, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information that, if released, could constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy.

OCR is committed to prompt and effective service. If you have any questions, please contact XXXXXXXXXX, or by email at XXXXXXXXXX, or the undersigned at XXXXXXXXX.

Sincerely,

Enclosure