

Gonzales Independent School District
OCR Case Number: 06161025

Gonzales Independent School District (GISD or the District) voluntarily submits this Resolution Agreement (Agreement) to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), Dallas Office. By this Agreement, the District commits to the following actions, consistent with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), 29 U.S.C. § 794, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Title II), 42 U.S.C. § 12132, and their respective implementing regulations, to resolve the compliance concerns raised by the complainant's allegations. The District understands that OCR will not close the monitoring of this Agreement until OCR determines that the District has fulfilled the terms of this Agreement and is in compliance with the regulations implementing Section 504 and Title II, at 34 C.F.R. §§ 104.3, 104.4, 104.33-104.36, and 28 C.F.R. § 35.130, respectively, which were at issue in this case. This Agreement does not constitute an admission by the District that it discriminated or otherwise engaged in any wrongdoing. The District hereby voluntarily commits to the following:

ACTION ITEMS

By the following dates, GISD will complete the following actions:

1. By **April 30, 2016**, after providing proper written notice to the Student's parent/guardian, a group of knowledgeable persons, will determine whether the Student needs compensatory (including, but not limited to, consideration of possible reimbursement of expenses incurred by the complainant for outside speech therapy services) and/or remedial services as a result of the GISD's alleged failure to provide appropriate regular and/or special education or related services (specifically, speech therapy) to the Student during the XXXX school year and from X---phrase redacted---X of the XXXX school year. While the parent will be invited, the ARD Committee meeting may proceed without her presence, if she refuses or fails to attend. If so, within 1 week of its determination, the group will develop a plan for making available timely compensatory and/or remedial services with a completion date not to extend beyond **December 31, 2016**. The GISD will provide the Student's parent/guardian notice of the procedural safeguards including the right to challenge the group's determination through an impartial due process hearing.
2. By **September 30, 2016**, GISD will provide training regarding its obligation under Section 504 and Title II to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) (including its obligation to fully implement each student's respective Section 504 Plan or IEP) to all qualified students with disabilities residing within its jurisdiction, as well as its obligation to refrain from retaliating against any person for the exercise of any right protected by Section 504 or Title II. The training should be provided to all relevant personnel, including, but not limited to, District administrators, school administrators, faculty, and counselors. The training will be conducted by individuals knowledgeable

about the laws and issues pertaining to disability discrimination, the evaluation of students who are or are believed to be disabled, the discipline of students with disabilities, and retaliation. The training shall address, at a minimum:

- The District’s obligation to identify and evaluate all students within its jurisdiction who, because of disability, need or are believed to need regular or special education or related aids and services;
- The District’s obligation, when disciplining a student with a disability, to conduct a manifestation hearing prior to issuing any exclusionary discipline that could constitute a significant change in the student’s placement;
- The District’s policies and procedures for carrying out its responsibilities to evaluate and re-evaluate students pursuant to Section 504, at 34 C.F.R. § 104.35;
- The District’s policies and procedures for carrying out its obligation to provide procedural safeguards pursuant to Section 504, at 34 C.F.R. § 104.36; and
- The District’s obligation to refrain from retaliating against any person because that person, or anyone else, exercised any right or privilege pursuant to Section 504 or Title II.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Within 2 weeks of the decision as to whether compensatory and/or remedial services are needed, the GISD will submit to OCR documents supporting the group’s decision. The documentation submitted shall include documentation showing the participants in the meeting, an explanation for decisions made, the information considered, and a description of and schedule for making available any compensatory and/or remedial services (if any) to the Student. OCR will, prior to approving the District’s decision and plan for making available the proposed services, review the documentation to ensure that the District met the procedural requirements of the regulation implementing Section 504, at 34 C.F.R. §§ 104.34, 104.35 and 104.36, in making these determinations.
2. In the event the District determines that the Student is entitled to compensatory and/or remedial services, the District will provide to OCR, no later than **December 31, 2016**, documentation of the dates, times, and locations that any compensatory and/or remedial services were provided. The documentation shall include a description of the services provided and the name(s) of the providers.
3. By **October 31, 2016**, GISD will provide OCR with documentation demonstrating that it has timely completed Action Item #2. At a minimum, the documentation should include the date(s) of the training, the identity and qualifications of the trainer(s), a copy of all written materials provided, and a copy of sign-in sheets indicating the attendees.

The District understands that by signing this Agreement, it agrees to provide data and other information in a timely manner in accordance with the reporting requirements of this Agreement. Further, the District understands that during the monitoring of this Agreement, if necessary, OCR may visit the District, interview staff and Students, and request such additional reports or data as are necessary for OCR to determine whether the District has fulfilled the terms of this Agreement and is in compliance with the regulations implementing Section 504 and Title II. The District understands and acknowledges that OCR may initiate administrative enforcement or judicial proceedings to enforce the specific terms and obligations of this Agreement. Before initiating administrative enforcement (34 C.F.R. §§ 100.9, 100.10), or judicial proceedings to enforce this Agreement, OCR shall give the District written notice of the alleged breach and a sixty (60) calendar days to cure the alleged breach.

Dr. Kimberly Stozier, Superintendent
Gonzales Independent School District

Date