

September 5, 2014

Ranet Tippens, Superintendent
Deer Creek Public Schools
20701 North MacArthur Blvd.
Edmond, Oklahoma 73012

Re: OCR Docket # 07141103

Dear Superintendent Tippens:

On March 10, 2014, the U.S. Department of Education (Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received a complaint against the Deer Creek Public Schools (District), Edmond, Oklahoma, alleging discrimination on the basis of race. This letter is to confirm that the District has voluntarily submitted a Resolution Agreement to OCR to resolve this complaint.

Specifically, the complainant alleged the District discriminated against her daughter, who is African American and Native American, on the basis of her race by allowing a racially hostile environment to exist at Deer Creek Middle School; in particular, by failing to stop and adequately address the racial harassment of her daughter by another student.

OCR is responsible for enforcing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 United States Code § 2000d, and its implementing regulation, 34 Code of Federal Regulations Part 100. Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin by recipients of Federal Financial Assistance (FFA).

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

Prior to the completion of OCR's investigation, the District submitted a signed Agreement (copy enclosed) on September 4, 2014 that, when fully implemented, will address the allegation in this complaint.

OCR considers 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 its 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, Attorney, at (816) 268-XXXX (voice) or (877) 521-2172 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or by e-mail at XXXXX.XXXXX@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Karl Menninger

Karl Menninger
Supervisory Attorney

Enclosure

cc: Janet Barresi, Oklahoma
Commissioner of Education