



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

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DENVER, CO 80204-3582

REGION VIII
ARIZONA
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NEW MEXICO
UTAH
WYOMING

July 24, 2018

Mr. Ron Painter, Site Director
Paramount Academy
11039 West Olive Ave
Peoria, Arizona 85345
Via email only: directorsoffice@paramountacademy.com

Re: Paramount Academy
OCR Case Number: 08-18-1247

Dear Director Painter:

We are writing to advise you of the resolution of the above-referenced complaint that was filed with our office against Paramount Academy (School) alleging that the School discriminated on the basis of race. Specifically, the issue that OCR opened for investigation was whether, after the Complainant filed OCR Case Nos. 08-17-1341 and 08-17-1419, the School retaliated (including intimidated, threatened, and/or coerced) against her and her two sons with respect to its intent to terminate her two sons' enrollment in February 2018, culminating in their withdrawal from the School.

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) of the U.S. Department of Education (Department) is responsible for enforcing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and its implementing regulation, at 34 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) part 100, which prohibit discrimination based on race, color, or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. As a recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Department, the School is subject to this law and regulation.

During the course of our investigation, the School indicated its desire to voluntarily enter into an agreement to resolve the allegation pursuant to Section 302 of our *Case Processing Manual* (CPM). We reviewed this request and determined that it was appropriate to enter into an agreement without completing a full investigation.¹

We thank the School for being willing to voluntarily address the allegations raised by this case. A copy of the signed Resolution Agreement (Agreement) is enclosed for your records. When the Agreement is fully implemented, the allegation will be resolved consistent with the requirements of Title VI and its implementing regulations. OCR will monitor implementation of the Agreement through periodic reports demonstrating the terms of the Agreement have been fulfilled. We will provide written notice of any deficiencies regarding the implementation of the terms of the Agreement and will promptly require actions to address such deficiencies. If the

¹ Our determination was partially determined by the fact that the Complainant has withdrawn her children from the School and has no interest in re-enrolling them.

School fails to implement the Agreement, we will take appropriate action, as described in the Agreement.

This concludes OCR's investigation of this complaint and should not be interpreted to address the School's compliance with any other regulatory provision or to address any issues other than those addressed in this letter. The case is now in the monitoring phase. The monitoring phase of this case will be completed when OCR determines that the School has fulfilled all terms of the Agreement. When the monitoring phase of this case is complete, OCR will close this case and will send a letter to the School, copied to the Complainant, stating that this case is closed.

This letter sets forth OCR's determination in an individual OCR cases. 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 a right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

Individuals filing a complaint or participating in our resolution process are protected from retaliation by Federal law.

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 protect personal information to the extent provided by law.

Thank you for the courtesy extended to us during the investigation of this case. We are committed to prompt and effective service. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Morris, the attorney assigned to this case at (303) 844-3682 or by email at Sarah.Morris@ed.gov, or me at (303) 844-5927 or by email at Tom.Rock@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Thomas M. Rock
Supervisory General Attorney

Enclosure: Resolution Agreement

cc (w/enclosure): XXX, outside counsel for School

cc (w/o enclosure): Diane Douglas, Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction