

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

REGION III DELAWARE KENTUCKY MARYLAND PENNSYLVANIA WEST VIRGINIA

THE WANAMAKER BUILDING, SUITE 515 100 PENN SQUARE EAST PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107-3323

June 10, 2024

## IN RESPONSE, PLEASE REFER TO: 03241160

Caroline Moore
Vice President
Parents Defending Education
By Email Only:

Dear Ms. Moore:

On February 2, 2024, the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received your complaint against the Fayette County Public Schools (the District). You allege that the District discriminates against students on the bases of race and sex because it offers an affinity group, "Daughters of Africa," that is open only to female students who are descendants from Africa.

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 100, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department. OCR also enforces Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and its implementing regulation, 34 C.F.R. Part 106 (Title IX), which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex by recipients of Federal financial assistance. As a recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Department, the District is subject to Title IX, Title VI, and their implementing regulations. Additional information about the laws OCR enforces is available on our website at http://www.ed.gov/ocr.

OCR will investigate this complaint. Please note that opening the complaint for investigation in no way implies that OCR has made a determination on the merits of the complaint. During the investigation, OCR is a neutral fact-finder, collecting and analyzing relevant evidence from you, the University, and other sources, as appropriate. OCR will ensure that its investigation is legally sufficient and fully responds to the allegations in accordance with the provisions of the Case Processing Manual (CPM), available at <a href="http://www.ed.gov/ocr/docs/ocrepm.pdf">http://www.ed.gov/ocr/docs/ocrepm.pdf</a>.

The District has been informed of your complaint allegations and information and documentation has been requested from the District

Please note the section on resolution of a complaint prior to the conclusion of an investigation. If the recipient expresses an interest in resolving the complaint and OCR determines that resolution of the complaint prior to the completion of the investigation is appropriate, OCR may attempt to negotiate an agreement with the recipient pursuant to Section 302 of the CPM.

Please be advised that the District must not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against an individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, or participates in an OCR proceeding. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint with OCR.

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, personal information that, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Ford at 215-656-8537 or robert.ford@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Craig D. Ginsburg
Supervisory Attorney

Craig D. Girstong