

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

1244 SPEER BLVD., SUITE 310 DENVER, CO 80204-3582 REGION VIII

ARIZONA COLORADO NEW MEXICO UTAH WYOMING

July 24, 2024

Ms. Caroline Moore	
Vice President	
Parents Defending Education	
Sent by email only:	

Re: OCR Case No. 08-24-1510

Greeley School District 6

Dear Caroline Moore:

On April 29, 2024, the United States Department of Education (Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) received your complaint against the Greeley School District 6 (District) alleging discrimination on the basis of race. Specifically, the complaint alleges that the District discriminated on the basis of race by hosting a "Black Family Affinity Group" (Group) for students and parents that restricts participation on the basis of race.

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 100, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin by recipients of federal financial assistance from the Department. Because the District receives federal financial assistance from the Department, OCR has jurisdiction over it pursuant to Title VI.

After carefully reviewing the information you provided, OCR determined that it is dismissing your complaint. OCR explains its decision in further detail below.

Under Section 108(f) of OCR's *Case Processing Manual* (CPM), OCR will dismiss a complaint allegation when the allegation, on its face or as clarified, fails to state a violation of one of the laws or regulations OCR enforces.

In your complaint, you speculate that membership in the Group "appears" to be based solely on an individual's race. You acknowledge that you are not affiliated with any person in the District, and thus have no specific knowledge of the Group or its membership. You also do not identify any individual that was excluded from the group based on race or any information that shows that the District restricted membership of the Group. Instead, the materials you provide are addressed, inclusively, to the "Parents and Community," and do not support an inference that the District limited the invitation to members of any race. Moreover, the invitation itself notes the

Page 2 – OCR Reference No. 08-24-1510

District's goal to create an "inclusive educational environment for *all* students" (emphasis added). Finally, <u>publicly available information</u>, shows that Black, Hispanic, and White families attended the Group's first meeting.

Based on the information before OCR, OCR cannot infer that membership in the Group is restricted based on race and therefore your complaint, on its face and as clarified, fails to state a violation of one of the laws or regulations OCR enforces. Accordingly, OCR is dismissing this complaint under Section 108(f) of the CPM as of the date of this letter.

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. Complainants may have the right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

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, assists, or participates in a proceeding under a law enforced by OCR. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 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 could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if released.

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Alexander, the OCR attorney assigned to this complaint, at 303-844-3473 or Patrick.Alexander@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Sandra J. Roesti

Sandra J. Roesti Supervisory Attorney