

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

February 23, 2021

Sent via email only to:

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The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

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Re: Case No. 01-19-4025 Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference

Case No. 01-19-1252 Glastonbury Public Schools

Case No. 01-20-1003 Bloomfield Public Schools

Case No. 01-20-1004 Canton Public Schools

Case No. 01-20-1005 Cromwell Public Schools

Case No. 01-20-1006 Danbury Public Schools

Case No. 01-20-1007 Hartford Public Schools

Dear Attorneys Mizerak, Monastersky, Murphy, Yoder, and Zelman:

This letter is to notify you that the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) hereby withdraws the Revised Letter of Impending Enforcement Action ("Revised Letter"), dated August 31, 2020, the Letter of Impending Enforcement Action ("Letter"), dated May 15, 2020, and the underlying findings and determinations in the above-referenced cases. Please also be advised that the Department has withdrawn its referral of the above-referenced cases to the U.S. Department of Justice requesting initiation of judicial proceedings.

The Revised Letter states that it "constitutes a formal statement of OCR's interpretation of Title IX and its implementing regulations." However, the Department has determined that the Revised Letter was issued without the review required for agency guidance documents that set out policy on a regulatory issue (known as "statements of general applicability and future effect") under the Office of Management and Budget's Final Bulletin on Agency Good Guidance Practices, 72 Fed. Reg. 3432 (Jan. 25, 2007). In addition, pursuant to Executive Order 13988 on *Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation*, OCR is reviewing the above-referenced cases. Therefore, the Revised Letter's statement of OCR's interpretation of Title IX and its implementing regulations should not be relied upon in this or any other matter.

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If you have any questions, please contact Timothy Blanchard, Regional Director, at 646-428-3805 or <u>timothy.blanchard@ed.gov</u> or Rachel Pomerantz, Chief Attorney, at 646-428-3835 or <u>rachel.pomerantz@ed.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Sem B. John

Suzanne B. Goldberg Acting Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

cc: Glenn Lungarini, CIAC Executive Director, via email only Alan B. Bookman, Glastonbury Superintendent, via email only Kevin D. Case, Canton Superintendent, via email only Dr. Enza Macri, Cromwell Superintendent, via email only Dr. Sal V. Pascarella, Danbury Superintendent, via email only Dr. James Thompson, Jr., Bloomfield Superintendent, via email only Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, Hartford Superintendent, via email only Roger G. Brooks, Alliance Defending Freedom, Complainant, via email only