



Board of Education

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September 18, 2013

Mr. Stefan Pryor
Commissioner of Education
Connecticut State Department of Education
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Commissioner Pryor:

In June 2012, the Greenwich Board of Education and Superintendent were notified that two schools were out of compliance with the State's racial balance statute and that the State Board of Education would like the Greenwich Board of Education to develop a plan, for the State Board's approval, to bring the schools into compliance.

The Greenwich Board of Education has taken this letter seriously and has been investigating our academic achievement, facility utilization and demographic trends and developing alternative plans. We reported to the State Board of Education in July on our findings thus far. The Greenwich Board of Education is continuing to evaluate all of our alternatives to address the State's letter.

One alternative has been identified during our research of the Statute relating to the Unique Schools clause in the Regulations. Unique Schools, as defined in the Regulations, include intradistrict magnet schools. As you know, Greenwich operates four intradistrict magnet schools for the benefit of the entire community. Thus, the Greenwich Board of Education believes these schools, two of which are being cited for racial imbalance, qualify as Unique Schools.

Please confirm Greenwich's assessment that New Lebanon School and Hamilton Avenue School are intradistrict magnet schools and thus qualify as Unique Schools, per the Regulations concerning the Racial Balance statute. If you do not agree with our assessment, please explain your reasoning and the legal basis for your viewpoint.

We would appreciate a prompt response to assist our planning efforts. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leslie B. Moriarty".

Leslie B. Moriarty
Chairman
Greenwich Board of Education