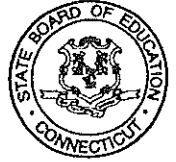




STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 16, 2010



Michael J. Frechette
Superintendent of Schools
Middletown Board of Education
311 Hunting Hill Avenue
Middletown, CT 06457-4356

Dear Dr. Frechette:


On April 7, 2010, the Connecticut State Board of Education (CSBE) accepted a report concerning the racial imbalance statistics for all schools in the state. Pursuant to Section 10-226e-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the CSBE is required to notify any board of education which has a school or schools with racial imbalance and impending racial imbalance. Racial imbalance exists when the proportion for the school falls outside of a range from 25 percentage points less to 25 percentage points more than the comparable proportion for the school district. Impending racial imbalance exists when the proportion for a school falls outside a range from 15 percentage points less to 15 percentage points more than the comparable proportion for the school district. The comparable proportion for the school district is determined by the total number of racial minorities in a school to the district-wide total pupil enrollment in the same grades.

As directed by the CSBE, I am advising you that Macdonough School, which was identified last year as racially imbalanced, now has impending imbalance. Although the school's imbalance has fallen below the twenty-five percent level for racially imbalanced schools, the imbalance was 24.14, which is still close to identification as racially imbalanced. The Middletown Board of Education has submitted a plan to correct the racial imbalance at this school, which was approved by the CSBE. Therefore, the Middletown Board is obligated to implement this plan.

I understand that the Board has reconfigured its attendance zones. The result of this action will not be apparent until the next school year. Therefore, we will be closely monitoring the statistical information for the 2010-2011 school year to verify that this reconfiguration has had a significant impact on the imbalance at Macdonough School.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Attorney Laura Anastasio in the Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs at (860) 713-6512.

Sincerely,


Mark K. McQuillan
Commissioner of Education

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