

Carl J. Coles, Superintendent

October 15, 2022

On August 15, 2022, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) submitted a letter to the Victor Valley Union High School District regarding their findings in respect to an ongoing OCR complaint focused on discipline. OCR stated the following:

"This concludes OCR's compliance review of the District's disciplinary practices under Title IV. Based on the above analysis of both direct and circumstantial evidence of racially discriminatory intent, OCR determined under Section 303(b) of OCR's Case Processing Manual that the District's student discipline practices violated Title VI and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. §§ 100.3(a), and 100.3(b)(1)(i), (ii), (iv), and (vi). In addition to direct evidence of statements from District administrators and employees reflecting racially discriminatory motives, OCR reviewed circumstantial evidence that, based on the totality of the circumstances, evidenced racial discrimination in student discipline. This included examples of racially different treatment of similarly situated students, statistical evidence demonstrating a consistent and stark pattern of a racially discriminatory effect on African American students, several noticeable departures from normal District procedures and inconsistent application of disciplinary policies, and a pattern of actions that has imposed greater harm on African American students than students of other races."

The letter included a Resolution Agreement addressing 12 requirements to improve, support, and remedy any current practices or individuals harmed by past practices. Resolution requirement #12 focuses on Compensatory Education for any student from 2014-2021 that did not receive their high school diploma due to possible discriminatory discipline practices during that time frame. any current practices or individuals harmed by past practices. The District has agreed to provide the following services to those students impacted:

- 1. Enrollment in the VVUHSD Adult Education Program to receive a High School Diploma
- 2. Free transportation through Victor Valley Transit Authority
- 3. Free tutoring 24 hours a day 7 days a week with FEV tutoring
- 4. Free electronic device to support academics

You are receiving this letter because you have been identified as a student who may have been impacted by these past disciplinary practices. Please reach out to our Student Services Department at (760) 955-3201 to set up your enrollment and to gain access to the services provided.

Sincerely, Carl J. Coles Superintendent