

AUG 22 2016

August 19, 2016

Ryan D. Jayne, Esq.
Freedom From Religious Foundation
P.O. Box 750
Madison, WI 53701

Re: Beaver Dam Unified School District Preschool Program

Dear Mr. Jayne:

This letter follows up to my correspondence dated June 27, 2016 regarding the complaint filed by the Freedom From Religion Foundation (Foundation) with the Beaver Dam Unified School District (District). Specifically, the Foundation raised concerns about the 3K preschool program offered to District students at St. Katharine Drexel School (School) and the District's process for placing children in an EC program at one of its sites. As I previously advised, the District asked us to investigate the complaint and make recommendations regarding any changes to the EC programs at the School or the District's process for placing children at one of the sites. Although the complaint referred only to the 3K program at the School, we also reviewed the 4K program offered by the School to determine its compliance with Board of Education Policy 2270-Religion in the Curriculum.

We have completed our investigation into the preschool programs offered to District students at the School. During the course of our investigation, we reviewed all materials including curriculum materials used in the preschool programs at the School, met with School staff and also toured the facility, specifically the classrooms where the EC programs are held. Based on our investigation, we requested that the School make a number of changes to the 3K program in order to bring that program into compliance with the District's policy. We also identified a few changes to be made to the 4K program.

After being advised of the changes that would have to be made to the 3K program, the School indicated it no longer wished to provide the EC (3K) program to District students and the District has accepted the School's withdrawal from participating in the program. Any students who were enrolled in the School's EC program by the District for the coming school year have since been moved to a program offered at a different site. The School did make the few changes requested in the 4K program, primarily changing the name of the program. Thus, the District will continue to

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offer the 4K program at the School as an option to families enrolling their students in the 4K program.

In addition, we reviewed the process for enrolling students in an EC program with District staff involved in that process and are confident that the appropriate action has been taken to address this matter.

The District appreciates the Foundation bringing this matter to its attention and considers this matter resolved.

Please contact me directly if you have any additional questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,



Mary L. Hubacher

MLH:kmh

cc: Mr. Stephen Vessey, Superintendent (via email)