



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906

Telephone: (781) 338-3700
TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-2370

September 20, 2016

Re: Intake 17-0125
Group Name: All Students
Closure Letter

Dear Mr. L. [REDACTED]

On September 6, 2016, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ("Department") received a written statement of concern from you involving the Natick Public Schools ("District"). Briefly, your concerns are summarized as follows:

- In your written statement of concern, you communicated that the District provided information or documents to you in response to your request for information about out-of-district special education placements. You further asserted that the Town of Natick's School Committee meeting notes from January 2016, which are available to the public, provide information about private day school placements, such as students' grade levels (but not students' names), names of private special education schools, and cost information.

You alleged that the School Committee's public provision of information regarding special education placements violates the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or the Massachusetts student record regulations (603 CMR 23.00).

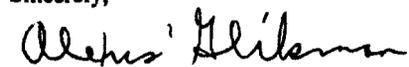
I want to assure you that the Department has reviewed carefully your statement of concern. However, the Department is not the regulatory authority for alleged FERPA violations. In order to pursue concerns about possible FERPA violations, you may contact the Family Policy Compliance Office at 1-800-872-5327, or access their website at <http://familypolicy.ed.gov/>.

Furthermore, the data which you asserted the School Committee published regarding special education placements does not represent a violation of 603 CMR 23.00, although, the Department recommends that the School Committee not continue the practice of publicly displaying this information.

The Department is unable to take formal action in this matter. The District is being notified of this determination by copy of this letter.

Should this summary of information be inaccurate in some way, you should contact me without delay at (781) 338-3702.

Sincerely,


Alexis Glikman, PRS Specialist
Program Quality Assurance Services

c: Peter Sanchioni, Superintendent, Natick Public Schools