MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Middletown High School North

63 Tindall Road, Middletown, NJ 07748 (732) 706-6061

Kevin Cullen Principal, Middletown High School North

October 26, 2022

Mr. and Mrs. Walters 772 Park Avenue Belford, New Jersey 07718

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Walters,

On September 21, 2022, District Administration received a report that your daughter, Jocelyn Waters, may have been the victim of an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The District treats allegations of this nature very seriously. Accordingly, the District launched an investigation immediately into the allegations. The purpose of this correspondence is to inform you that the District has since completed the investigation into these allegations and the results have been presented to the Board of Education.

The nature of the investigation centered on allegations that certain pupil(s) committed an act(s) of harassment, intimidation, or bullying against your daughter, Jocelyn. After careful consideration of the evidence yielded from the investigation, the District did not find evidence that Jocelyn was the target of the investigated act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Specifically, the evidence that the District uncovered did not substantiate that the alleged conduct rose to the level of harassment, intimidation, and bullying pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 and Board Policy 5512.

You may request a hearing before the Board of Education after receiving this correspondence by submitting a letter requesting a Board hearing to the Superintendent of Schools, Mary Ellen Walker. Please be advised that when a request for a hearing is granted, the hearing shall be held within ten school days of the request. Following the hearing in executive session of the Board of Education, the Board shall issue a decision in writing to affirm, reject, or modify the District's decision.

The Board's decision may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:3, Controversies and Disputes, no later than ninety days after issuance of the Board of Education's decision. A parent, pupil, legal guardian, or organization may file a complaint with the Division on Civil Rights within one hundred eighty days of the occurrence of any incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on membership in a protected group as enumerated in the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).

The District remains committed to providing a safe environment for its students. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns you may have regarding this matter.

Kevin Cullen Principal

cc:

Matthew Kirkpatrick, Assistant Superintendent for Student Support Services

Mary Ellen Walker, Superintendent of Schools