



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman

DATE: June 18, 2003

SUBJECT: Report on Response to Allegations Regarding Imlay City Schools

At the April 24, 2003, State Board of Education meeting during the time allotted for public comment, a group of parents with children enrolled in the Imlay City Community Schools presented concerns about alleged "bullying" taking place in certain schools. On April 30, a letter was sent to the Imlay City Community Schools' Superintendent (Dr. Timothy Edwards) from Superintendent Watkins referring to the parents' comments to the Board on April 24 and requesting a reply on the specific allegations raised.

Immediately prior to the May State Board of Education meeting, correspondence and numerous documents were received from the school district. The district's response, dated May 13, includes:

1. Information regarding the parental concerns, including a history of specific events dating back two years.
2. Policies, procedures, and guidelines on school safety and student bullying and harassment, specific to each building and to the district.
3. A description of programs that are in place.
4. A checklist on how the district is involved in preventing and responding to school violence.

The Office of Government Services has conducted a review of the materials and information provided by the district. The Michigan Department of Education is satisfied that the district has been responsive and has in place the appropriate policies, procedures, and guidelines to prevent or respond to bullying and harassment in the schools.

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