



MINNEAPOLIS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Urban Education. Global Citizens.

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January 4, 2011

The Honorable Keith Ellison
Member of Congress
2100 Plymouth Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Dear Congressman Ellison:

I received your letter dated December 15, 2010, with enclosures, regarding Broadway High School. The District recently learned of concerns regarding certain credits issued to a limited number of students at Broadway High School. In response, the District took immediate action to ensure that going forward these issues of concern were resolved.

We are committed to supporting all of our students in achieving their educational goals. We recognize that providing appropriate educational services is at the core of our work. To that end, and prior to receiving your letter, the District engaged an outside firm to assist us in ascertaining the specifics of the concerns raised, and we are working diligently to address the questions of students and their families as quickly as possible to limit the impact on affected students.

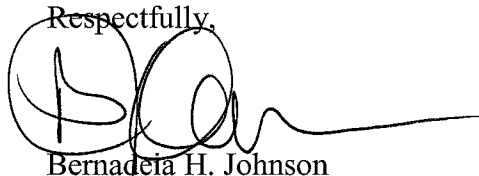
Because the issues at hand involve students and their private records, we must be mindful of the sensitive nature of the information being reviewed, and we are constrained by the Minnesota Data Practices Act with regard to what we can communicate regarding this matter. The credit issues related to the students identified in your letter are individualized and complex. While five of your constituents have provided releases with regard to their individual student records, we cannot discuss in detail the concerns as the matter involves other students at Broadway High School who may be identifiable by information under review.

Please know that we will be working closely with the constituents you identified and with the other students and their families to attempt to provide timely and satisfactory solutions to their specific concerns. School administrators have been and will continue holding meetings with affected Broadway students to develop solutions tailored to each student's needs and individual situation. The District will act in the best interests of the students in determining these solutions.

Congressman Keith Ellison
January 4, 2011
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We appreciate your concern with regard to this matter and ask that you allow us to focus our attention and resources on our students as we resolve these issues. Please do not hesitate to contact Mark Bonine, Associate Superintendent (612.668.0140), with any further questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bernadeia H. Johnson
Superintendent of Schools

cc: Mike Siebenaler