

April 14, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Sean Bewick, Esq.
Dozier Law Firm, LLC
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Macon, GA 31202
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Re: March 2025 letter concerning the Removal of the Principal and Vice Principal of Alexander II Magnet School in Bibb County

Dear Mr. Bewick:

I am writing in response to your March 2025 correspondence to the State School Superintendent Richard Woods and the State Board of Education member Frank Griffin Jr., in which you shared the concerns of Alexander II Magnet School parents regarding the reassignment of the principal and vice principal.

The doctrine of “local control,” which provides local school boards with the management and control of public schools, is deeply rooted in our state constitution. For this reason, the State School Superintendent, the Georgia Department of Education, and the State Board of Education have very limited authority over the daily operations of school systems. The allegations raised in the letter, such as potential violations of the Bibb County Board of Education’s code of conduct, the Georgia Open Meetings Act, and Open Records Act, are outside of the purview of the State School Superintendent and State Board of Education.¹

¹ Bibb County Board of Education’s Board Policy BH: Board Code of Ethics addresses who is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Code of Ethics. Georgia’s Open Meetings Act and Open Records Act include enforcement provisions. See O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1, et seq. and O.C.G.A. 50-18-70, et seq. Moreover, Georgia’s Department of Law has an Open Government Mediation Program “to help Georgia’s citizens with questions or concerns about local government’s decisions to close meetings to the public or governmental responses to Open Records requests.” See <https://law.georgia.gov/open-government-mediation-program>.



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I regret that we could not be of more assistance at this time.

Kindest regards,

/s/ Stacey Suber-Drake

Stacey Suber-Drake
Chief Legal Officer

cc: Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent
Mr. Richard Woods, State School Superintendent
Mr. Frank Griffin, State Board of Education Member