



Department of
Education

David C. Banks
Chancellor

January 25, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Mr. Naftuli Moster
Executive Director
Young Advocates for Fair Education
P.O. Box 1796
New City, NY 10956
naftuli@yaffed.org

RE: Substantial Equivalency Inquiry

Dear Mr. Moster,

Your letter to Chancellor David Banks, dated December 20, 2021, has been referred to me for a response.

The complaint filed by Young Advocates for Fair Education (YAFFED) in 2015 (the “Complaint”) is the subject of an investigation that is still ongoing. While it is true that two of the yeshivas named in the Complaint were found to be providing substantially equivalent instruction, as required by Section 3204 of the New York State Education Law, findings have not yet been made regarding the other 26 yeshivas that are within the scope of the inquiry. The investigation is still ongoing with respect to those 26 schools.

We are working to complete the investigation but some of our efforts have been delayed by COVID and other external factors.

We appreciate your concern in this matter.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Fitzgerald

Bernadette Fitzgerald
Senior Executive Director
Office of Nonpublic Schools

CC:

Joanna Reyes, Senior Advisor – ONPS
Mark Otto, Executive Director of Teaching & Learning – ONPS
Eric T. Weinbaum, Executive Director of Operations – ONPS
Lawrence Pendergast – Deputy Chief Academic Officer
Robin Singer, Deputy Counsel – OGC