



May 24, 2022

Stephen Rosenthal, Board Chair  
Stacy Martin, CEO  
Collegiate Academies  
2635 Thalia Street  
New Orleans, LA 70113

Re: Collegiate Academies' Response Letter to May 16, 2022, Notice of Non-Compliance, Level 2

Dear Mr. Rosenthal and Mrs. Martin:

This communication is sent in response to your letter to our office dated May 16, 2022, requesting retraction of the Notice of Non-Compliance, Level 2 issued to Collegiate Academies on April 25, 2022 for failure to comply with Louisiana's IEP Handbook for Students with Exceptionalities (BESE Bulletin 1530). This letter is also in response to your request for additional clarity regarding the specific violations indicated in the Notice of Non-Compliance, Level 2.

In response to your request to remove and retract the Notice of Non-Compliance, Level 2, that request is denied for the reasons articulated below. In response to your request for additional clarity:

- What have we failed to do and/or what guidance have we not followed since NOLA Public Schools became aware of the matter last October?
  - The error occurred when the student was provided Louisiana Connectors aligned instruction, leading towards a LEAP Connect diploma pathway, while the IEP team selected that the student was working towards a regular high school diploma and not eligible for the LEAP Connect assessment.
  - As mentioned in your letter and in the student's multidisciplinary evaluation and IEP, the student is not eligible for the LEAP Connect assessment, despite your disagreement with the results of the student's multidisciplinary evaluation.
- Which specific part(s) of BESE Bulletin 1530 are you alleging that Abramson?
  - Abramson Sci Academy violated Section 505 of BESE Bulletin 1530, related to Alternative Assessments.
- Does NOLA-PS intend to override other IEP team decisions regarding placement moving forward?
  - NOLA-PS has not overridden and does not override IEP team decisions.
  - As the charter authorizer, it is our responsibility to ensure charter schools are complying with all federal, state, and local regulations as outlined in the operating agreement. If there are identified violations, we must ensure that they are rectified.

As indicated in the original Notice of Non-Compliance, Level 2, several actions were to be completed to return to

good standing. Specifically, Abramson has been directed to:

- Meet with the parent to explain the student's graduation progression and anticipated graduation date;
- Create a graduation plan for the student with the realistic graduation path and share said plan with the student and parent;
- Provide academic support for the student in core curriculum classes to assist in successful transition from self-contained classes; and
- Review the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Report of all other students in self-contained classes to ensure compliance.

Please be reminded to provide appropriate documentation to this office no later than May 27, 2022, verifying the above outlined items have been effectuated to resolve this Non-Compliance. Failure to satisfactorily complete the necessary action(s) by the date indicated above may result in additional escalated consequences. Please contact Sundry Barjon, PhD or me with any questions that you may have related to this matter.

Sincerely,



Litouri Smith

Interim Chief School Accountability Officer