

[REDACTED]
Bridgeport, CT 06610

June 23, 2014

State Department of Education
Bureau of Special Education
P.O. Box 2219-ROOM 364
Hartford, CT 06145-2219

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is [REDACTED] I am writing this letter on behalf of my [REDACTED] who is a student with special needs. [REDACTED] will be transitioning from [REDACTED] in the school year of 2014-2015 and [REDACTED] is expected to go to our district school [REDACTED] I disagree with this placement and I am requesting out of district placement for [REDACTED]

The following points detail my concerns for [REDACTED] safety and wellbeing and explain the facts relevant to *IDEA* violations, in regard to [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED] only has a 36% success rate for its special education students.
- It is not the least restricted environment.
- The presence of uniformed police officers and security are required on a daily basis.
- They are under staffed.

According to *IDEA*, my child has a right to be educated in the least restricted environment (LRE). As I was going through search and security at [REDACTED] however, it made me feel as if I were entering a correctional facility - fully equipped with guards and a metal detector. The learning center at the end of the corridor was also manned by a Board of Education officer and school security. Students must be escorted to the one co-ed restroom just outside of the classroom. The students are furthermore secluded to designated areas during lunch and other electives. Unfortunately, my request for out of district placement was denied during a formal PPT. As a concerned parent and advocate I have explored my options and after visiting different schools settings I have found a "Board of Education approved private special education program" at St. Catherine Academy, located in Fairfield, CT. The facility is well staffed and has all of the tools and equipment necessary to provide [REDACTED] with an adequate education in a least restricted environment.

I thank you in advance for considering my request.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]