



# NEW JERSEY

## SENATE DEMOCRATS

**FOR RELEASE:**  
June 19, 2020

**CONTACT:**  
Press Office  
(609) 847-3700

Dr. Lamont Repollet  
Commissioner, Department of Education  
PO Box 500  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Commissioner,

I want to bring to your attention some deeply troubling accusations of alleged racism and sexism towards two former teachers at Rancocas Valley Regional High School by the school's administration and the school board. The teachers, two-tour Iraq war veteran Antisha Meisner and Marsha John-Addison, are both women of color and have both released detailed statements regarding their experiences on their personal Facebook pages.

Since these statements were made public, there has been a flood of accusations made by former students in a Facebook group titled "We Demand Justice". Since being formed on June 16th, the group has over 3,000 members and contains startling accusations alleging sexually inappropriate behavior between school staff and students, alleged racial bias by teachers against students, alleged refusal by teachers to accommodate student's 504 Plans, and much more.

There is an abundance of detail and credible accusations that I believe demands an investigation. Rancocas Valley Regional High School, located in Mount Holly Township, in Burlington County, has over 2,000 students enrolled from five sending districts: Westampton Township, Lumberton Township, Eastampton Township, Hainesport Township, and Mount Holly Township.

Education is a fundamental pillar in our society. I know the vast majority of teachers and school administrators are dedicated, concerned and passionate about their profession. I also know we share the foremost goal of ensuring all students and staff can learn and work in a safe environment free of any kind of

discrimination. Therefore I ask that your department conduct a thorough investigation into this troubling situation as soon as possible.

If my office can be of any help in this matter, please do not hesitate to reach out: (609) 654-1498 or [SenAddiego@njleg.org](mailto:SenAddiego@njleg.org).

Sincerely,

Senate Dawn Marie Addiego

cc.

Daryl J. Minus-Vincent  
Burlington County Interim Executive County Superintendent  
P.O. Box 6000  
Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Rachel Wainer Apter  
Director New Jersey Division of Civil Rights  
P.O. Box 089  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0089