ACLU
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION of WISCONSIN FOUNDATION

January 17, 2014

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Jean Born, District Administrator
Sheboygan Falls School District
220 Amherst Ave
Sheboygan Falls WI 53085-1799
Via Fax: 920-467-7899

**Re: Open Records Request for Information Related to Sheboygan Falls District Policies and Practices**

Dear District Administrator Born:

The ACLU of Wisconsin is concerned by reports that you have suspended two members of the basketball team from playing in this evening's game against Plymouth. Apparently, you believe that they displayed gang signs in a photo printed in the Sheboygan Falls News. We believe that you may have engaged in the kind of biased discipline recently condemned by Attorney General Eric Holder (see report referenced below). We urge you to allow these players to at least participate in this evening's game, while you reconsider your unwarranted imposition of discipline.

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute §19.31 *et. seq.*, I hereby request that you provide any records within the custody or control of the Sheboygan Falls School District, or any subdivision thereof, or any police officer stationed or working with the district, pertaining to the following matters.

1. School district efforts to achieve equality of educational opportunity and nondiscrimination, including any records of staff diversity training or training to recognize discrimination.
2. Efforts to comply with the new U.S. Department of Education Federal Guidelines that discuss exclusionary discipline practices which disproportionately impact students of color. (http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/school-discipline/guiding-principles.pdf)
3. Trends and patterns of disciplinary actions, including suspensions, expulsions, and handling of pupil harassment, disaggregated by race.
4. Any information or records about gang activity within the high school or staff training to recognize this type of activity.
5. A copy of your policy on what is or is not acceptable for athletes to do in photographs and/or the athletic code of conduct, and the consequences of such actions.

COMMUNITY SHARES OF WISCONSIN & GREATER MILWAUKEE

Please provide me with these items without delay. If they are available in electronic format, you may provide it to me that way at the email included in my signature. In this request, the term 'records' includes all information recorded in any form whatsoever, including, but not limited to, papers, and digital electronic media (such as computer disks, hard drives, CDs, DVDs, etc.).

If you anticipate that the actual cost of providing copies of these records will exceed $50, please contact me before proceeding.

If any material responsive to this request is deemed to be exempt from disclosure, identify the material withheld and specify the asserted basis for the exemption. Please release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Ahmuty
Executive Director
cahmuty@aclu-wi.org

cc: Principal Luke Goral, Sheboygan Falls High School, 920-467-7899;
State Superintendent Tony Evers;
U.S. Attorney James Santelle