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THE HONORABLE ROBERT J. BRYAN

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

JAMES HORTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

No. C94-5428 RJB

vs.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT
BOB WILLIAMS, et al.,

OF CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL RESIDENTS OF GREEN HILL SCHOOL:

On July 26, 1995, a proposed settlement of plaintiffs' claims for declaratory and injunctive relief brought in this lawsuit was filed with this Court. The proposed settlement is called a "Stipulation and Judgment." This Notice is to advise you about the terms of the Stipulation and Judgment and to explain how to file written objections to it, if you have any. Final approval of the settlement by the Court is required and will be subject to the Court's review of objections filed by residents of Green Hill School (GHS).

This Notice only summarizes the terms of the proposed settlement. A complete copy of the proposed settlement is available upon request in all of the living units at GHS and in the school library.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT- Page 1

Defendants.

EVERGREEN LEGAL SERVICES
INSTITUTIONAL LEGAL SERVICES PROJECT
101 YESLER WAY, SUITE 301
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104
(206) 464-0838

## I. WHO IS AFFECTED BY THIS NOTICE

The lawsuit and the proposed agreed court order affect all youth housed at GHS, now or in the future.

## II. HOW TO FILE OBJECTIONS WITH THE COURT

Any resident may file objections to the proposed settlement by mailing written objections to Clerk of the Court at: U.S. Courthouse, Union Station, 1717 Pacific Avenue, Room 3100, Tacoma, WA 98402-3200. These objections must be mailed by August 31, 1995, and should reference the case number, USDC-WD No. 5428 RJB. After reviewing any objections filed by residents, the Court will determine whether to accept the proposed settlement.

## III. SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

- 1. The legislature has directed, and made appropriations for, the redevelopment of GHS. Under the agreement, the State defendants will implement said legislative appropriation, subject to any future legislative determinations. Any such redevelopment of the physical plant at GHS will meet at least minimum constitutional standards. The State defendants have further agreed to quarterly brief plaintiffs' attorneys on the progress of any such development.
- 2. The agreement requires the State defendants to implement new policies governing the use of restraints, pepper spray, transfers to IMU and sentence reductions.
- 3. The settlement states that the State defendants shall not use pepper spray except in emergency situations to control a truly dangerous youth.
- 4. It requires the State to hold due process hearings concerning transfers to IMU and whenever a youth is denied good conduct credit to reduce his maximum sentence.
  - 5. The settlement requires the Chehalis School District to provide individualized

educational services and special education to eligible youth.

- 6. It requires GHS to give all youth, including those in lock-up, access to educational services, although it allows GHS to keep a youth out of school for up to 72 hours when first placed in IMU. Youth cannot otherwise be denied access to educational services unless suspended or expelled after the legally required hearings and process.
- 7. Under the agreement the State defendants shall permit only qualified medical personnel to administer medications to youth, as required by law.
- 8. It also requires the State to provide language translation services to youth unable to understand English and to translate policies governing youth behavior, activities and services into Spanish.
- 9. Under the agreement the State defendants are required to implement changes in the following programs: intake and orientation procedures; individual treatment plans; use of intensive management unit; individual counseling; vocational opportunities; de-escalation skills; treatment of violent offenders; life skills programs, and health care services.
- 10. An independent monitor will help the plaintiffs' attorneys make sure that the defendants do what they are supposed to do under the terms of the settlement.
- 11. The court will maintain jurisdiction over the case for four years to make sure the defendants meet their obligations under the Stipulation.
- 12. The settlement provides that the amount of attorneys fees to be awarded plaintiffs' counsel will be determined by separate agreement or court order.

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