

Joint Statement Concerning the Settlement of *Derrick, et al. v. The Glen Mills Schools, et al.*, 2:19-cv-01541-HB

The Chester County Intermediate Unit (CCIU) has approved a settlement with plaintiffs in *Derrick, et al. v. The Glen Mills Schools, et al.*, 2:19-cv-01541-HB, a class action lawsuit filed in 2019 on behalf of former Glen Mills students and their parents. Glen Mills Schools—the oldest reform school in the country for the treatment and education of youth adjudicated delinquent—was closed in 2019 by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services in response to findings of pervasive abuse and intimidation against students by Glen Mills Schools residential staff.

In the lawsuit, plaintiffs claimed widespread and substantial violations of the civil rights of former students committed to the Glen Mills Schools, including that all students were deprived of a meaningful education and students with disabilities were discriminated against and failed to receive a free, appropriate public education. Named defendants in the action are Glen Mills Schools, former officials and employees of Glen Mills Schools, officials of the Pennsylvania Department of Education and CCIU as well as various former officials of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.

Although the plaintiffs and CCIU disagree over the obligations that CCIU had to oversee the education of students at the Glen Mills, CCIU and the plaintiffs *do* agree that protracted litigation will not benefit the young men who contend they received an inferior education while at the Glen Mills Schools.

The intermediate unit and the plaintiffs have therefore resolved to provide a solution in the best interests of the young men who attended the Glen Mills Schools. The intermediate unit has agreed to establish a compensation fund for former Glen Mills Schools students. From this fund, qualifying former students may be eligible for compensation. This compensation could include cash payments, compensatory education, or a combination of these remedies.

Students who attended Glen Mills at any time after January 1, 2013 are potentially eligible for relief from this fund. For information about the fund and how to submit a claim, students or their families may email “Help@GlenMillsSettlement.org.”

The class action lawsuit will continue against the remaining defendants, including representatives of the Pennsylvania Department of Education and Glen Mills Schools who plaintiffs allege also bear responsibility for the deprivation of education to former students at Glen Mills.