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Upper Dublin schools accused of discrimination

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A group of parents on Monday accused Upper Dublin schools of discriminating against black students by giving them more out-of-school suspensions and placing them in lower level courses. Upper Dublin School District

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A group of parents on Monday accused Upper Dublin schools of discriminating against black students by giving them disproportionately more out-of-school suspensions and placing them in lower-level courses.

In a complaint to the U.S. Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, a group called Concerned African American Parents (CAAP) alleges that black students comprised 7.3 percent of Upper Dublin's 4,232 students last year but received 45 percent of the suspensions.

Filed for the parents by the Public Interest Law Center, the complaint also says that not one black student was in the gifted program in the district's four elementary schools and middle school.

"The district's practices reflect a national trend of excluding African American kids from higher-level courses and feeding them into lower-level or even special education classes," attorney Sonja Kerr said in a statement. "We're asking the

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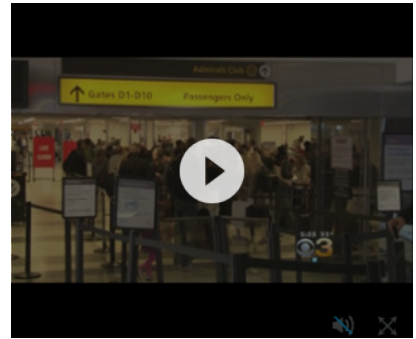
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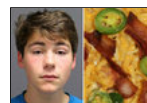
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