On Wed, Jan 25, 2023 at 1:12 PM Tony Strat-Cortez < tony.strat-cortez@thet.net > wrote: Hello Kimberly,

I'm not sure if Sora has more to add, but she did provide the quote below:

"Racism affects my life and my family. It also affects people I care about and those around me. I am Asian and I have friends who are people of color. It affects them in similar ways. It does affect everyone, whether you are a person of color or not, because how we relate to people and connect with others impacts our overall social environment. A social environment where anyone's differences makes them feel scared or isolated, is unhealthy for everyone in that environment whether they relate or not. This work is a way to improve the community and it makes Thetford Academy a better place for everyone." - Sora Bolles

Attached is my written testimony regarding including Independent schools in Vermont in the EQS recommendations. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Tony Strat-Cortez, DEI Coordinator

(He/They)

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