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# Lincoln-Sudbury H.S. faces federal probe over assault complaints

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By **Matt Rocheleau**

GLOBE CORRESPONDENT FEBRUARY 14, 2015

Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School is among 29 K-12 schools and education districts across the country under federal investigation for their handling of sexual violence and harassment complaints.

The US Education Department has been investigating Lincoln-Sudbury since June.

The investigation centers around possible violations of Title IX, a federal rule that bans discrimination based on sex at educational institutions and programs that receive federal aid.

The department has said that being under investigation does not indicate a school is violating or has violated the law.

Lincoln-Sudbury Superintendent-Principal Bella Wong said in an



e-mail that school officials have finished meetings with Education Department representatives, but an outcome to the investigation has not been determined.

Wong declined to comment further, including about what prompted the investigation, citing student privacy concerns.

The Education Department declined to share further details about the case.

In May, amid increasing concern over campus sexual assault, the department made headlines when it took the unprecedented step of identifying every college and university in the country under investigation for possibly violating rules governing the handling of sexual violence and harassment complaints.

That initial list named 55 colleges and has since grown to 96, including 10 in Massachusetts.

The original list and additions made to it have been closely tracked by news media and others.

But little attention has been paid to Title IX investigations at K-12 schools and districts.

The 28 other elementary and secondary schools facing pending investigation include two in Arkansas; one in Arizona; three in California; one in Colorado; one in Connecticut, one school in Washington, D.C., that faces two separate investigations; one in Illinois; two in Indiana; one in Louisiana; two in Maryland; one in Michigan; two in Missouri; one in Montana; one in North Carolina; one in New Mexico; one in Ohio; one in Tennessee; three in Texas; one in Virginia; and one in Washington.

Of the 30 total investigations, three were opened during 2015; 16 were opened during 2014; eight opened in 2013; one opened in 2012; and two opened in 2010.

*Matt Rocheleau can be reached at [matthew.rocheleau@globe.com](mailto:matthew.rocheleau@globe.com). Follow him on Twitter [@mrochele](https://twitter.com/mrochele).*



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