



March 28, 2017

RE: Letter of Response for Grievance Filed

Dear [REDACTED]

This letter is in reference to concerns that were brought to the attention of DCPS on Monday, March 19, 2017 regarding [REDACTED]. Specifically, you stated that [REDACTED] is currently experiencing bullying from several parties in class, in the bathroom, and other areas of the school. [REDACTED] comes home frequently with injuries sustained from bullying, however, you state the school refuses to investigate and fails to report incidents. Recent incidents include [REDACTED] being stabbed in the shoulder with a pencil, harassed and embarrassed in the bathroom, and being treated unfairly/ bullied by [REDACTED] due to misunderstanding/ misbehaving. You state that [REDACTED] is becoming [REDACTED] and is under observation. Additionally, you allege the principal has refused to accommodate a parent conference.

In response, DCPS took the following measures:

1. On [REDACTED] parents and MPD had a meeting at the school to discuss incident that happened in cafeteria that morning, and to address acceptable behavior parents should be exhibiting while in school.
2. On [REDACTED] school met with parents in a formal meeting that included Principal [REDACTED], School Counselor, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] classroom teachers, [REDACTED] Dean of Students, [REDACTED] Grandmother of [REDACTED] Mother and Father, and School Resource Officers to address your concerns.
3. On [REDACTED] an additional meeting was held with parent of other student involved in most recent incident, Principal [REDACTED], School Counselor, [REDACTED] School Social Worker, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] classroom teachers, [REDACTED] Dean of Students [REDACTED] Representative/Grievance [REDACTED] Grandmother of [REDACTED] Mother and Father, and School Resource Officers to address your concerns.
4. For incident that occurred on [REDACTED] in which [REDACTED] was poked by a pencil [REDACTED] was examined by the nurse and released to class when his injuries were determined to not be substantial enough for any further care. Principal [REDACTED] has been in contact with the parents each day afterschool for the first week following the incident to update them on behavior incidents until Behavior log was implemented.
5. Prior to this filed grievance, DCPS was proactively collecting ABC data on [REDACTED] behaviors to effectively implement an individualized Behavior Chart System for him.
6. A behavior log was created on [REDACTED] for classroom teacher and school faculty to record behaviors and send home daily to be reviewed and signed by parents.
7. School has and will investigate each incident that occurs with [REDACTED] and will follow up with parent after each behavior related issue.
8. [REDACTED] will continue to meet with [REDACTED] weekly during the school day for counseling.
9. To minimize negative interactions with peers during math class, [REDACTED] will have preferential seating
10. To ensure [REDACTED] feels safe in school, he will have a support chain that will be activated when he feels unsafe. His support chain is as follows: buddy class, [REDACTED] (School Clinical Social Worker), [REDACTED] (School Principal) .

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11. On [REDACTED] Principal [REDACTED] and Parents were offered the option to transfer [REDACTED] to his neighborhood school [REDACTED]
 12. On [REDACTED] school requested documentation of [REDACTED] exhibited by [REDACTED] or anything to note that he is [REDACTED]. Receipt of documentations still outstanding.

DCPS conducted an investigation which included speaking with you, your *child*, and other students/person identified as witnesses and/or deemed relevant. Based on the findings of the investigation, the reported actions do not constitute a violation of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations.

DCPS does not tolerate the mistreatment of students in any form to include bullying, sexual harassment, or other forms of discrimination. Nor does DCPS tolerate retaliation for reporting behavior that could constitute mistreatment and such behavior should be reported immediately.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of this investigation, you have the right to file an appeal within 10 calendar days of receipt of this letter. Appeals must be submitted in writing. Appeal requests may be submitted via U.S. Postal Mail to 1200 First St., 9th Floor; Attn: Resolution Grievance Division or via email at dcps.grievance@dc.gov. You may also contact the U.S. Department of Education, Office on Civil Rights (1-800-421-3481) to report any educational discrimination on the basis of race, sex, disability, etc.

If you have further questions or concerns about this letter or other issues, please do not hesitate to contact us at dcps.grievance@dc.gov or 202.442.5405. Thank you for taking steps to making DCPS a safe and welcoming environment.

Regards,

