



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

BY EMAIL

December 10, 2018

RE: Letter of Response for Written Grievance #2558 filed on November 5, 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

In accordance with **24 DCMR Subtitle 5-B, Section 2405** of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, DC Public Schools (DCPS) Comprehensive Alternative Resolution and Equity (CARE) team has completed its investigation of the above referenced written grievance.

Grievance Issue

Based on a review of the information provided, the written grievance raised the following issue under the jurisdiction of this office:

1. **24 DCMR Subtitle 5-B, Section 2405.2 (b) allegation that the rights of student are being denied or abridged**

You allege you have not received timely and professional communication from [REDACTED] regarding documentation and steps taken by the school to ensure safety following an incident involving [REDACTED] swallowing a binder clip in his classroom.

Investigative Procedure

The investigation included interviews with the following individuals:

1. [REDACTED] parent
2. [REDACTED] Principal at [REDACTED]
3. [REDACTED] School Social Worker at [REDACTED]

The investigation also included review of the following documents which were either submitted by the complainant, submitted by the school, or accessible via DCPS data systems:

1. Letter to parent dated October 22, 2018, from [REDACTED] Principal [REDACTED] and Social Worker [REDACTED] regarding the incident and steps moving forward to ensure safety.
2. Safety Plan for [REDACTED] (see attachment)
3. Incident Report filed by [REDACTED] dated April 4, 2018



General Findings of Fact

1. The incident occurred on April 4, 2018.
2. As of the date of this letter, this student is no longer a District resident.
3. Information regarding actions taken by the school following the incident with [REDACTED] were provided to you via letter from [REDACTED] on October 22, 2018 and include the following:
 - a. Routine vacuuming and cleaning of the room at least two times per day
 - b. Safety Plan created by the school
 - c. Limiting access to small items that could potentially be harmful students

Discussion/Conclusion

As a result of this review, we have found that your claim is not substantiated.

1. DCPS finds that 24 DCMR Subtitle 5-B, Section 2405.2 (b) is not substantiated. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] responded according to protocol with their actions, by submitting the incident report to security on April 5, 2018.

The school is required to take the following actions by the due date established below:

1. A classroom safety plan was created on Tuesday, May 1st, 2018, for [REDACTED] should he return to [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED] maintenance staff vacuumed and sterilized the classroom April 4, 2018, immediately following the incident to ensure it was safe for students and free of debris.
3. For SY 18-19 the school has created a schedule to vacuum and clean rooms twice per day; before lunch and at dismissal.

As the complainant, if you are not satisfied with the outcome, you have the right to file an appeal. Appeals must be submitted in writing and received within 10 calendar days of receipt of this notice. Please submit appeal request to the Office of Integrity via U.S. Postal Mail to 1200 First St., NE, 11th Floor; Attn: CIO or via email at dcps.cio@dc.gov. You may also contact the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (1-800-421-3481) to report any educational discrimination.



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If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at dcps.care@dc.gov or 202.442.5405.

Sincerely,



Anitra Allen-King, Director CARE

Cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent