



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

BY EMAIL AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

April 3, 2019

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RE: Letter of Response for Written Grievance # 2687 filed on December 18, 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 Issues

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

1. **5-B 2405.2(f)** Any other violation of a right granted by law that does not have a specific grievance procedure or hearing process provided in this title.

You allege that [REDACTED] injured her hand on a desk in the hallway at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and that you tried to talk to teachers about the incident on the day it happened but could not get any answers.

Investigative Procedure

The investigation included interviews with the following individuals:

1. [REDACTED], Parent
2. [REDACTED], Manager, Strategy and Logistics (MSL)

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. Picture of the desk

-
2. Security Camera Footage of the annex hallway
 3. [REDACTED] Nurse [REDACTED] accident report
 4. Witness Statements provided by:
 - a. [REDACTED], School Counselor at [REDACTED]
 - b. [REDACTED] Teacher at [REDACTED]
 - c. [REDACTED] Teacher at [REDACTED]

The following findings of fact resulted from the investigation:

1. Incident occurred November 26, 2018, around 11:30 a.m., in the annex building hallway, while students were being escorted on bathroom break.
2. According to security cameras viewed by [REDACTED], DCPS CARE Team; [REDACTED] ran and jumped eight (8) times onto the desk in the hallway. On her eighth jump, the desk fell on top of her.
3. According to the nurse's incident report, [REDACTED] lacerated the middle and ring finger on her left hand.
4. Nurse [REDACTED] called 911 at 11:37am.
5. The school nurse covered her fingers with gauze and applied ice to those two fingers. The paramedics arrived and removed the gauze and applied fresh gauze as well as wrapped her fingers with stretch bandage gauze.
6. [REDACTED] traveled to Children's National Medical Center with school social worker, [REDACTED]
7. According to MSL [REDACTED] the school made multiple attempts to contact you via phone but was unable to make contact.
8. [REDACTED] social worker, [REDACTED] informed [REDACTED] that the hospital contacted you. You arrived at the hospital around 3:30 p.m., and her father arrived shortly thereafter.
9. On January 7, 2019, [REDACTED]'s father made request to [REDACTED] via phone, for assistance with paying the medical bill.
10. On January 7, 2019, you were emailed the contact information for the Office of Risk Management (ORM), by [REDACTED].

Discussion/Conclusion

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

1. DCPS finds **5-B 2405.2(f)** is not substantiated. According to [REDACTED], the school attempted to contact you via phone multiple times and was unsuccessful.

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

1. Effective January 2, 2019, the desk has been removed from the area. [REDACTED] custodian, relocated the classroom teacher, [REDACTED] cubby/storage unit near the classroom door to replace the desk.
2. During bathroom breaks, classroom aide will escort same gender students to the bathroom, while [REDACTED] will remain in the class with the opposite gender. Classroom aide will return and escort the opposite gender students to the class.

-
3. On January 7, 2019, [REDACTED], emailed you the information to file your claim for potential expense payment with the Office of Risk Management (ORM).

Office of Risk Management

441 4th Street, NW, Suite 800 South,
Washington DC 20001
Building: One Judiciary Square

Phone: (202) 727-8600

Email: orm@dc.gov

Website: <http://www.orm.dc.gov>

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 requests 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.

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