



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

VIA EMAIL

December 10, 2020

██████████
████████████████████

RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #2711 filed on January 3, 2019

Dear ██████████

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

Grievance Issues

We acknowledge there has been a lapse in time since the filing of this grievance. Based on a review of the information provided, the written grievance raised the following issues under the jurisdiction of this office:

1. **5-B DCMR 2405.2(e)**: Where a student is a victim of bullying or harassment, including sexual harassment. It was reported to DCPS CARE that Student A instigated a fight with Student ██████. on ████████████████████. Additionally, it was reported that Student A and Student ██████ engaged in several altercations and that Student A frequently made fun of Student ██████

Review Procedure

The review included interviews with the following individuals:

1. ██████████, Parent of Student ██████
2. Parent of Student A
3. ████████████████████ Assistant Principal
4. ████████████████████ Guidance Counselor

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

1. Aspen-DCPS database for student records
2. Student Behavior Tracker-DCPS database for student discipline

General Findings of Fact

1. According to an [REDACTED] record in Aspen, Teacher [REDACTED] reported that Student A [REDACTED] Student [REDACTED] attempting to engage Student [REDACTED] in a fight but Student [REDACTED] did not want to fight.
2. According to a [REDACTED] record in Aspen, Teacher [REDACTED]. reported that Student A attempted to engage Student [REDACTED] in a fight and slapped and pushed Student [REDACTED]
3. According to a [REDACTED] record in Aspen, Teacher [REDACTED] reported that Student A chanted and called Student [REDACTED]
4. On [REDACTED], it was reported by Guidance Counselor [REDACTED] that on [REDACTED] Student A was making fun of Student [REDACTED] weight and slapped Student [REDACTED] It was reported that Student [REDACTED] responded by throwing milk at Student A.
5. Guidance Counselor [REDACTED] also reported that on [REDACTED], Student A initiated a fight with Student [REDACTED] which resulted in Student [REDACTED] obtaining a bump on their head. Additionally, it was reported that Student A frequently makes fun of Student [REDACTED] weight.
6. Upon review of the Student Behavior Tracker, there is no information to indicate that conflict between Student [REDACTED] and Student A has continued into the [REDACTED] school years.

Discussion/Conclusion

1. **5-B DCMR 2405.2 (e)** is substantiated. It was reported that Student A repeatedly attempted to initiate fights with Student [REDACTED] hit Student [REDACTED] and taunt Student [REDACTED] Student A's conduct toward Student [REDACTED] was sufficiently persistent and severe to constitute bullying as defined in the DCPS Bullying Prevention Policy. Student A's behavior disrupted and interfered with Student [REDACTED] ability to learn in a safe educational environment. DCPS CARE attempted to contact you regarding any ongoing concerns but was unable to reach you. In the future, should you have any concerns regarding Student [REDACTED] safety at [REDACTED] please contact DCPS CARE at the number below.

As a result of these allegations, DCPS has taken the following action:

1. Student A received Chapter 25 disciplinary infractions as a result of this behavior.
2. Within 10 school days of receipt of this letter, [REDACTED] will provide a check-in to Student [REDACTED] and if deemed necessary, counseling will be provided upon receiving consent from the Parent of Student [REDACTED]

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, 10th Floor; Attn: CIO or via email at dcps.cio@k12.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@k12.dc.gov or 202.442.5405.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anitra Allen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anitra Allen, Director CARE

Cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent