



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

VIA EMAIL

July 13, 2020

[REDACTED]

RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #2729 filed on January 9, 2019

Dear [REDACTED]:

In accordance with Chapter 24 Subtitle 5-E, Section 405 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 grievance.

Grievance Issues

We acknowledge that 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-E DCMR 405.3 (b):** Where it is alleged that any individual is being subjected to an arbitrary or unreasonable regulation, procedure, or standard of conduct.
 - a. You reported that [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] staff did not contact you after Student [REDACTED] was allegedly jumped by four other students.
 - b. Additionally, you reported that Principal [REDACTED] refused to hold a meeting between parents of the students involved in the alleged incident.

Review Procedure

The review included interviews with the following individuals:

1. [REDACTED], Grievant/Parent of Student [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED] School Social Worker
3. Former [REDACTED] Behavior Technician

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 student information database

General Findings of Fact

The following findings of fact resulted from the review:

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1. On March 29, 2019 School Social Worker [REDACTED] and former [REDACTED] Behavior Technician reported that protocol requires that parents are contacted if students are hurt. However, they could not confirm that they contacted you following the January 7, 2019 incident.
 2. On March 29, 2019 the former [REDACTED] Behavior Technician reported to DCPS CARE that restorative justice practices were implemented.

Discussion/Conclusion

As a result of this review, we have determined the following:

- a. Regarding the school contacting you following the physical altercation, DCPS CARE finds that **5-E DCMR 405.3 (b)** is substantiated. You reported to DCPS CARE that you were not contacted after an incident involving Student [REDACTED]. Two members of the [REDACTED] staff reported that the school's protocol is to contact parents if a student is injured. However, staff were unable to conclusively state that they contacted you following the January 7, 2019 incident.
- b. Regarding, the request for a parent meeting, DCPS CARE is unable to substantiate **5-E DCMR 405.3 (b)**. You reported that you requested a parent meeting following the physical altercation on January 7, 2019. School staff reported that restorative justice practices were implemented to address the incident.

In order to address your concerns, DCPS has taken or will take the following action:

1. Effective October 2, 2018 Principal [REDACTED] was identified as your point of contact for any concerns.
2. Restorative justice principles were implemented by [REDACTED] staff in response to the January 7, 2019 incident.
3. By July 31, 2020, [REDACTED] administrative staff will review their communication protocol. Any revisions will be made before the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

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.

Sincerely,



Anitra Allen, Director CARE

Cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent