



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

December 29, 2020

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #2757 filed on January 18, 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

In accordance with Chapter 24 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 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-B DCMR 2405.2(e)** Where a student is a victim of bullying or harassment, including sexual harassment.
 - a. It was reported that Student [REDACTED] physically assaulted Student D around [REDACTED]

Investigative Procedure

The investigation included interviews with the following individuals:

1. [REDACTED] Director of Operations
2. [REDACTED], Principal at [REDACTED]

On [REDACTED] DCPS CARE made attempts to interview Student D; DCPS CARE was unable to contact the parent/guardian of Student D to obtain consent. DCPS CARE made attempts to interview Student [REDACTED] DCPS CARE was unable to contact the parent/guardian of Student [REDACTED] to obtain consent.

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:

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1. ASPEN-DCPS' data monitoring database
 2. Student Behavior Tracker (SBT)-DCPS' behavior tracking database

General Findings of Fact

Regarding the allegation that Student A physically assaulted Student D around [REDACTED] the following findings of fact resulted from the investigation:

1. On [REDACTED] Director of Operations [REDACTED] reported they witnessed Student D near Student [REDACTED] locker. Staff [REDACTED] reported they've witnessed Student D hit Student [REDACTED] and Student [REDACTED] hit Student D in return. Accordingly, the incident was not bullying.
2. DCPS CARE did not obtain any information regarding an incident between Student D and Student [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]

Discussion/Conclusion

- a. Regarding the allegation that Student [REDACTED] physically assaulted Student D around [REDACTED] **5-B DCMR 2405.2(e)** is unable to be substantiated. Based on the information gathered during this investigation, there is no evidence to conclude that Student [REDACTED] assaulted or bullied Student D during the [REDACTED] school year. Information provided by [REDACTED] would suggest that the conflict between Student [REDACTED] and Student D were mutually reciprocated and does not constitute bullying. There is insufficient information to conclude that Student D was subjected severe, persistent or pervasive conduct from Student [REDACTED]. DCPS CARE was unable to interview Student D or Student [REDACTED] to get additional information.

As a result, Deal Middle School has taken or will take the following actions:

1. On [REDACTED] created and implemented a safety plan for Student D that would extend through [REDACTED].
2. On [REDACTED] created and implemented a safety plan for Student D that would extend through [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