



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL

October 29, 2019



RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #3121 filed on April 23, 2019

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 preliminary investigation of the above referenced grievance.

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

5-B DCMR 2405.2(e) Where a student is a victim of bullying or harassment, including sexual harassment.

- On April 23, 2019 it was reported that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were exchanging inappropriate messages to each other via Instagram and that [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] were also on the message exchange.

The preliminary investigation included interviewing the Principal [REDACTED], and four of the parents of the involved students ([REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]) and the grandparent of [REDACTED]. The reported behavior was unwelcomed, but did not reach the level of severe, persistent, or pervasive behavior prohibited by DCPS Sexual Misconduct or Disciplinary policies. Additionally, the reported behavior did not limit the ability of any of the student's participation or benefit from the educational environment. As a result, DCPS has determined that this claim does not warrant further investigation and is closing this matter at this time.


Although this matter is closed [REDACTED] has taken or will take the following actions:

1. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] spoke with the social worker on April 23, 2019.
2. Interim measures were put in place and an assessment was completed on April 25, 2019.
3. A cellphone policy for the 18/19 SY was created and sent home for parents to review and sign.
4. A cellphone policy for the 19/20 SY was updated and sent home for parents to review and sign for the new school year.
5. A social media policy notification from November 20, 2017 was resent home to parents for review.

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,

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

Anitra Allen-King, Director CARE

Cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent