



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

BY EMAIL AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

July 23, 2019



RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #3225 filed on May 22, 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

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

1. On May 8, 2019, it was reported that Student A grabbed [REDACTED]'s hair and began to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] while at [REDACTED]. Additionally, Student A allegedly pushed [REDACTED] against the lockers and reached for [REDACTED] and attempted to kiss her. These allegations fall under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 ("Title IX") which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex.

Investigative Procedure

The investigation included interviews with the following individuals:

1. Parent, [REDACTED]
2. Student, [REDACTED]
3. Student A
4. Dean of Students, [REDACTED]
5. Witness #1

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. Student Behavior Tracker

-
2. Written Statement from [REDACTED]
 3. Written Statement from Student A
 4. Written Statement from Witness #1
 5. Administrative Statement from Dean of Students, [REDACTED]

General Findings of Fact

The following findings of fact resulted from the investigation:

1. [REDACTED] reported that that while standing outside of the restroom, Student A began to hit her with a toy microphone. He continued to be playful and started to pull her hair.
2. While pulling [REDACTED]'s hair, Student A began to [REDACTED].
3. [REDACTED] states that Student A also touched [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from the outside of her clothes.
4. Student A denied inappropriately touching [REDACTED] in a sexual manner or making an attempt to kiss her but did admit to pulling her hair.
5. Witness #1 states that she saw Student A pulling [REDACTED]'s hair and [REDACTED] her while saying [REDACTED].
6. Witness #1 recalls Student A grabbing [REDACTED] on her waist while he was behind her. [REDACTED] was heard saying "stop" and was attempting to push Student A away from her.

Discussion/Conclusion

As a result of this review, we have found that the incident that occurred on May 8, 2019 between [REDACTED] and Student A does constitute a violation of Title IX and Chapter 25 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, which governs student discipline. It is more likely than not that Student A aggressively pulled [REDACTED]'s hair and inappropriately touched her in a manner that is sexual in nature.

DCPS has taken the following actions below to address this incident:

1. On May 8, 2019, Student A received a Chapter 25, Tier 5 infraction as a result of his behavior.
2. As a result of this incident, Student A is no longer enrolled at [REDACTED].
3. Following the incident, [REDACTED] met with School Social Worker, [REDACTED] on a daily basis to provide her with support and help her with anxiety.
4. Dean of Students, [REDACTED] performed morning and end of the day check-ins daily to ensure that [REDACTED] was comfortable with the educational environment at [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, 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 Allen-King', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anitra Allen-King, Director CARE

Cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent