



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

VIA E-MAIL AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

June 7, 2019



RE: Letter of Response for Written Grievance #3237 filed on May 28, 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

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 investigation of the above referenced written 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. **5-B DCMR Subtitle 2405.2 (c)** where it is alleged that any student or group of students is being subjected to an arbitrary or unreasonable regulation, procedure, or standard of conduct. You allege that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had bed bugs in [REDACTED] and did not follow proper cleaning procedures and did not inform parents.

Review Procedure

The investigation included interviews with the following individuals:

1. [REDACTED], Grievant
2. [REDACTED]
3. [REDACTED] Principal [REDACTED]

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

1. DCPS FAQs on Communicable Diseases and Pests
2. Letter sent to families on [REDACTED] regarding bedbug sighting
3. DCPS Pests One-Pager (Protocol for Responding)

General Findings of Fact

The following findings of fact resulted from the investigation:

1. On [REDACTED] there was a report of a bedbug sighting at [REDACTED]
2. On [REDACTED] Principal at [REDACTED] informed DCPS central office staff of the bedbug sighting.
3. On [REDACTED], correspondence was sent to [REDACTED] families informing parents of the bedbug sighting.

Discussion/Conclusion

As a result of this review, DCPS has found the following:

1. 5-B DCMR Subtitle 2405.2 (c) is not substantiated. There was no confirmation of bed bugs at [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] staff followed appropriate protocol in response to a bedbug sighting on [REDACTED]. DCPS Health and Wellness team, DCPS Strategic School Operations team, DCPS Communications team, District of Columbia Department of General Services and District of Columbia Department of Health provided support to [REDACTED] to appropriately address and respond to this incident. Additionally, communication was sent to families on [REDACTED] to inform families of the sighting and provide information on next steps. As such, there is no information to suggest that [REDACTED] subjected students to arbitrary or unreasonable regulations, procedures or standards of conduct as it relates to bed bugs in [REDACTED]

However, in order to respond to your concerns, [REDACTED] has taken the following action:

1. On [REDACTED] Staff received a training on common pests and appropriate response protocol.

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

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent