



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

BY EMAIL AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

June 30, 2020



RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #3242 filed on May 30, 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:

1. **5-B DCMR 2405.2(e):** Where a student is a victim of bullying or harassment, including sexual harassment.
 - a. On May 30, 2019, it was reported that [REDACTED] kissed and sucked Student A's neck while in the bathroom at [REDACTED].

The preliminary investigation included speaking with you on March 30, 2020, with an attempt to follow up via phone and email on March 31, 2020. Additionally, we spoke with the parent of Student A and Assistant Principal [REDACTED]. During our conversation with Student A's parent, they indicated that there were text messages between Student A and [REDACTED] that indicated [REDACTED] may have restrained and kissed Student A in the bathroom. During our conversation with you, you indicated that your understanding of the incident was that both students were taking selfies in the bathroom and kissing each other on the cheek, in a non-sexual way. We were unable to gather additional information through direct interviews with either student. Information from Assistant Principal [REDACTED] indicated that there was no additional information from what was reported at the time. Given this information, the incident does not rise to the level of "severe, persistent, or pervasive" conduct which would constitute sexual harassment. As a result of this review, we have found that the claim does not warrant further investigation. This matter is considered closed at this time.

Although there is no further investigation at this time, DCPS has taken the following steps to address the behavior:

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1. Within the first 60 days of the 2020-21 school year, all students will participate in a Title IX training. This training should include information regarding how to report a Title IX concern and who the point(s) of contact is/are for reporting concerns.

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