



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

BY EMAIL AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

April 15, 2020



RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #3327 filed on August 26, 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. **5-B DCMR 2405.2(a)** Where it is alleged that any student or group of students is being denied access to an adequate educational opportunity.
 - a. You reported that [REDACTED] accepted other students who failed the [REDACTED] exam but did not accept [REDACTED] who failed the same exam.

Investigative Procedure

The investigation included interviews with the following individuals:

1. Parent, [REDACTED]
2. Principal, [REDACTED]

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. Test results from all P-4 students
2. Relevant emails from Principal, [REDACTED]

General Findings of Fact

The following findings of fact resulted from the investigation:

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1. You applied for enrollment at [REDACTED] for the [REDACTED] school year. For admission, in-boundary students at the P-4 grade level must take and pass the [REDACTED] exam.
 2. A review of [REDACTED] exam shows that she earned a score that was below the average score of students whom were accepted into the school.
 3. You reported that there were student's that failed the exam but were still accepted into the program. A review of the exam results shows that there were two students in question that were accepted into the program after a second review.
 4. Student #1 initially scored higher than [REDACTED] but below the average score that was accepted. However, the parents of Student #1 provided [REDACTED] with documentation of the child's documented disability which impacted the student's performance during the exam.
 5. Student #2 refused to speak during the exam and therefore [REDACTED] were unable to collect enough data to make a final decision. Student #2 was later able to demonstrate that she [REDACTED]

Discussion/Conclusion

1. 5-B DCMR 2405.2(a) is not substantiated. DCPS CARE reviewed each of the exam results from students seeking admission into [REDACTED] at the P-4 level. Besides the two examples provided above, students were not admitted to the school with a non-passing exam score. This review demonstrates that [REDACTED] appropriately admitted students based on their [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,

[REDACTED]

Cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent