



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

VIA E-MAIL

October 20, 2020

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

RE: Letter of Response for Written Grievance #3688 filed on February 12, 2020

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 review 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 2405.2(e)**: Where a student is a victim of bullying or harassment, including sexual harassment.
  - b. On February 12, 2020 it was alleged that Student A was being harassed and bullied by Student [REDACTED]. Furthermore, it was alleged that the behavior is not only happening at school but on the bus during the afternoon drop off.
2. **5-B DCMR 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.
  - b. It was alleged that the school is not responding to the request for support with addressing the alleged bullying.

**Review Procedure**

The review included interviews with the following individuals:

1. Parent of Student A
2. Student A
3. [REDACTED], Assistant Principal at [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED] Principal at [REDACTED]
5. [REDACTED], Teacher at [REDACTED]
6. [REDACTED] Bus Attendant Manager [REDACTED]
7. [REDACTED] Principal at [REDACTED]

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DCPS CARE attempted to contact you to interview Student [REDACTED] but contact attempts were unsuccessful.

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

1. SBT (Student Behavior Tracker) - DCPS behavior management database

### **General Findings of Fact**

The following findings of fact resulted from the review:

1. Student A reports that the alleged bullying with Student [REDACTED] started because Student C got kicked off of the bus for bullying Student A. Student A reported that Student [REDACTED] made a comment to Student A about getting Student C kicked off of the bus.
2. According to documentation collected during the review, Student C was removed from the bus due to a separate incident unrelated to concerns associated with this grievance.
3. Student A reports Student [REDACTED] has pointed at them and made comments while in school but has not physically touched them.
4. Assistant Principal [REDACTED] reports that the only incident they were aware of involved Student A's father approaching Student [REDACTED] at the bus stop to inquire about the alleged bullying of Student A.
5. On March 2, 2020 [REDACTED] Bus Attendant Manager reports that no altercations occurred between Student A and Student [REDACTED] while on the bus.
6. Principal [REDACTED] reports Student [REDACTED] no longer rides the bus to school. Additionally, Principal [REDACTED] reported that measures have been put in place to better support Student [REDACTED] such as assigning a safe point of contact to Student [REDACTED] and having Student [REDACTED] write a letter to the safe point of contact when Student [REDACTED] feels unsafe so that the school can intervene.

### **Discussion/Conclusion**

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

1. DCPS finds that **5-B DCMR 2405.2(e)** is not substantiated. Based on the information gathered during the review, DCPS CARE determined that the alleged incident that was reported to have taken place on the school bus, where Student [REDACTED] made a comment about Student A getting Student C kicked off the bus was an isolated incident and does not meet the DCPS definition of bullying as "severe, pervasive or persistent" behavior. There is insufficient evidence to substantiate bullying.
2. DCPS finds that **5-B DCMR 2405.2 (c)** is not substantiated. The DCPS review determined that the [REDACTED] Assistant Principal [REDACTED] and Principa [REDACTED] took steps to address the bullying concerns such as speaking with the students on the bus about the inappropriate behavior and putting measures in place to better support Student A.

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In order to respond to these allegations, [REDACTED] has taken the following action:

1. Student A was reassigned to another bus February 10, 2020.
2. In March 2020 Principa [REDACTED] was assigned to Student A as a safe point of contact for Student A to write a letter to or speak with when they feel unsafe.

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, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor; Attn: CIO or via email at [dcps.cio@k12.dc.gov](mailto: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](mailto:dcps.care@k12.dc.gov) or 202-442-5405.

Sincerely,



Anitra Allen, Director CARE  
cc: Principal  
Instructional Superintendent