

BY EMAIL

May 3, 2022

RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #3974 filed on September 14, 2021

Dear ,

In accordance with Title 5 Education, Subtitle 5-B, Chapter 24, Subsection 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:

- 5-B DCMR 2405.2(e): Where a student is a victim of bullying or harassment, including sexual harassment.
  - a. On September 14, 2021, it was reported that Custodian, witnessed Student and Student B in a bathroom stall together.

The preliminary investigation included speaking with you, Principal, the parent/guardian of Student B and Custodian. Student B reported to their parent/guardian that although they were in the bathroom stall with Student, no inappropriate conduct took place. When Custodian, saw the students in the stall, they were told to come out, which they did. While DCPS does not approve of students sharing a stall, there is no evidence to suggest that inappropriate conduct took place in violation of the DCPS Preventing and Addressing Student-on-Student Acts of Sexual Misconduct Policy. Additionally, the reported behavior did not limit the ability of either students' participation or benefit from the educational environment. As a result, DCPS has determined that this claim does not warrant further investigation and is closing this matter at this time.

Although this matter is closed, has taken or will take the following actions:

 By October 1, 2021, administration and staff will create a bathroom attendance protocol.

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 Chief Integrity Officer (CIO) via U.S. Postal Mail to 1200 First St., NE, 10<sup>a</sup> Floor; Attn: CIO or via email at <a href="mailto:dcps.cio@k12.dc.gov">dcps.cio@k12.dc.gov</a>. 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 <a href="mailto:dc.gov">dcps.care@k12.dc.gov</a> or 202.442.5405.

Sincerely,

Anitra Allen-King, Director CARE

Cc: Principal

**Instructional Superintendent** 

BY EMAIL

May 3, 2022

Vera Rowland

Email: rowland vera@yahoo.com

RE: Letter of Response for Grievance #3974 filed on September 14, 2021

Dear Ms. Rowland,

In accordance with Title 5 Education, Subtitle 5-B, Chapter 24, Subsection 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:

**5-B DCMR 2405.2(e)** Where a student is a victim of bullying or harassment, including sexual harassment.

• On September 14, 2021, it was reported that R.W., Aiton Elementary School (ES) Custodian witnessed Student A and Student A.R. go into a bathroom stall together.

The preliminary investigation included interviewing you, M.G., Aiton ES Principal, parent/guardian of Student A and R.W., Aiton ES Custodian. Additionally, Student A.R. reported to you that although they were in the bathroom stall with Student A, no inappropriate conduct took place. While DCPS does not approve of students sharing a stall, there is no evidence to suggest that inappropriate conduct took place in violation of the DCPS Preventing and Addressing Student-on-Student Acts of Sexual Misconduct Policy. Additionally, the reported behavior did not limit the ability of either students' participation or benefit from the educational environment. As a result, DCPS has determined that this claim does not warrant further investigation and is closing this matter at this time.

Although this matter is closed, Aiton ES has taken or will take the following actions:

1. By October 1, 2021, Aiton ES administration and staff will create a bathroom attendance protocol.

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 Chief Integrity Officer (CIO) via U.S. Postal Mail to 1200 First St., NE, 10<sup>a</sup> Floor; Attn: CIO or via email at <a href="mailto:dcps.cio@k12.dc.gov">dcps.cio@k12.dc.gov</a>. 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 <a href="mailto:dcs.gov">dcps.care@k12.dc.gov</a> or 202.442.5405.

Sincerely,

Anitra Allen-King, Director CARE

Cc: Principal

Instructional Superintendent