



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

VIA EMAIL

November 9, 2022

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

RE: Letter of Response for Written Grievance #4297 filed on January 14, 2022

Dear [REDACTED]:

In accordance with Chapter 24 Subtitle 5-B, Section 2405 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR), 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. It is alleged that on January 13, 2022, Student A called Student [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. These allegations took place at [REDACTED]. These allegations fall under DC Human Rights Act of 1977 which, in part, prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex (including sexual harassment).

Review Procedure

The review included interviews and emails with the following individuals:

1. Parent [REDACTED], parent of Student [REDACTED]
2. Parent of Student A.
3. Principal [REDACTED], school Principal.

DCPS CARE did not obtain consent to speak to Student [REDACTED] or Student A.

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

General Findings of Fact

The following findings of fact resulted from the review:

1. Students [REDACTED] and A were [REDACTED] students at [REDACTED] at the time of the alleged incident.
2. On January 14, 2022, Parent [REDACTED] sent an email to DCPS that said, in part, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
3. In an interview with the CARE Team on August 1, 2022, Parent [REDACTED] said that the school was able to implement supportive measures, including speaking with both of the students and both parents. Parent [REDACTED] further said that while Student A stopped the name calling, Student A continued to curse. Parent [REDACTED] declined our request to interview Student [REDACTED], saying [REDACTED]
4. In an interview with the CARE Team on August 1, 2022, Parent A said that it was a “tough” school year, and that [Student A] was bullied and hit on multiple occasions, adding that “it was terrible...We are still recovering.” Parent A concluded by saying that she was leaving town but would like to speak further and asked that we email her to continue the dialogue.
5. The CARE Team emailed Parent [REDACTED] on August 1, 8, and 15, 2022 with no response. DCPS CARE also called again on August 8, 2022, and left a message but did not receive a call back.
6. In an email dated August 2, 2022, Principal [REDACTED] stated that the school implemented the supportive measures listed below.

Discussion/Conclusion

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

DCPS is unable to substantiate **5-B DCMR 2405.2 (e)**. It is alleged that on January 13, 2022, Student A called Student [REDACTED] “slow” and “stupid.” DCPS CARE did not obtain consent to speak to Student [REDACTED] or Student A. As a result of the lack of evidence, the CARE Team is unable to substantiate **5-B DCMR 2405.2 (e)**.

In order to address these concerns, [REDACTED] took the following action in January 2022:

1. Both parents were notified.
2. Conducted mediation with both students.
3. Each student received social-emotional support from the school social worker.

As the grievant, 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](tel:202.442.5405).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anitra', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Anitra Allen-King, Director CARE

cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent