



BY EMAIL

April 22, 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

RE: Letter of Response for Case #4373 received on February 13, 2022

Dear [REDACTED],

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 review of the above referenced matter.

Grievance Issues

Based on a review of the information provided, the incident raised the following issues under the jurisdiction of this office:

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.

1. It was reported that on [REDACTED], at an [REDACTED] School [REDACTED] versus [REDACTED] [REDACTED] School [REDACTED] Girls Basketball Game, Athletic Director [REDACTED] (who was serving as the substitute basketball coach on that day) instructed [REDACTED] Student A to charge/attack [REDACTED] Student B during a basketball game. This resulted in [REDACTED] Student B and [REDACTED] Student [REDACTED] being unfairly ejected from the game.
2. It was reported the basketball game, which occurred on [REDACTED], was not impartial due to Athletic Director [REDACTED] being the president of the D.C. Public Schools Interscholastic Athletic Association (DCIAA) referee association.

Review Procedure

The review included interviews with the following individuals:

1. Parent of Student B
2. Parent of Student [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
3. Student [REDACTED]
4. Student B
5. Parent of Student A
6. Student A
7. Athletic Director at [REDACTED] School, [REDACTED]
8. Director of Athletics, [REDACTED]

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

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1. ASPEN (DCPS Student Database System)
 2. Video footage from the [REDACTED] School vs. [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]
 3. Emails exchanges in [REDACTED] from Director of Athletics [REDACTED]
 4. DCPS Basketball Roster ([REDACTED] School)
 5. DCPS Basketball Roster ([REDACTED] School)

General Findings of Fact

As it relates to the allegation that Athletic Director [REDACTED] instructed Student A to charge/attack Student B, the following findings resulted from the review:

1. Parent [REDACTED] reported to DCPS CARE they witnessed Athletic Director [REDACTED] instruct Student A to charge/attack Student B.
2. Video footage from the [REDACTED], game shows Student A playing defense against Student B. The students were in close physical proximity to each other. Student B then hit Student A, openhandedly, which initiated an altercation. Both students fell to the floor. Student [REDACTED] ran to the fight and joined the altercation. Student B and Student [REDACTED] were subsequently ejected from the game.
3. Video footage does not show Athletic Director [REDACTED] direct Student A to charge/attack Student B
4. Athletic Director [REDACTED] reported to DCPS CARE that they instructed Student A to guard/play defense against Student B According to Athletic Director [REDACTED] they did not instruct Student A to charge/attack Student B

As it relates to the allegation that Athletic Director [REDACTED]'s role as the President of the DCIAA referee association, the following findings of fact resulted from the review:

1. DCIAA reported that Athletic Director [REDACTED] is the not president of the basketball referee association.
2. DCPS Director of Athletics [REDACTED] reported Athletic Director [REDACTED] was a baseball umpire and has no affiliation with the basketball referees. It was also reported Athletic Director [REDACTED] served as substitute coach for the [REDACTED], game due to the head coach being absent.

Discussion/Conclusion


As a result of this review, we have determined the following:

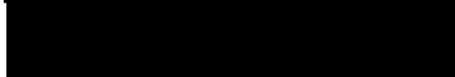
1. DCPS CARE is unable to substantiate **24 DCMR 5-B, Section 2405.2 (c)**. Video footage from the [REDACTED], basketball game does not show Athletic Director [REDACTED] directing Student A to charge/attack Student B. Video footage shows Student A playing defense against Student B. The video footage also shows an altercation initiated by Student B and Student [REDACTED] joining the altercation. Student B and Student [REDACTED] were subsequently ejected from the game. DCPS CARE is unable to conclude Athletic Director [REDACTED] directed Student A to attack Student B or that Student B and [REDACTED] were unfairly ejected from the game. DCPS CARE does not find that Student B and Student [REDACTED] were subjected to an arbitrary or unreasonable regulation, procedure, or standard of conduct.
2. DCPS CARE is unable to substantiate **24 DCMR 5-B, Section 2405.2 (c)**. Athletic Director [REDACTED] is not the president of the basketball referee association. Athletic Director [REDACTED] is a baseball umpire and had no affiliation with the basketball referees. There is insufficient evidence to suggest the [REDACTED], game was impartial due to Athletic Director [REDACTED]'s affiliation with basketball referees. DCPS does not find that Student B or Student [REDACTED] were subjected to an arbitrary or unreasonable regulation, procedure, or standard of conduct.

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 Chief Integrity Officer (CIO) 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 202-4425405.

Sincerely,

, Director CARE


Cc: Principal
Instructional Superintendent