



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE
COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS**

DATE OF REPORT
8/23/2021

DVN
002306329

FACILITY NAME

THE GODDARD SCHOOL

FACILITY ADDRESS

906 N ROCK HILL RD

CITY

ST LOUIS

ZIP CODE

63119-1315

PHONE NUMBER

(314) 918-1210

COUNTY

ST LOUIS

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

WILMESHER, LAURA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)8.

No discipline technique which is humiliating, threatening, or frightening to children shall be used. Children shall not be shamed, ridiculed, or spoken to harshly, abusively, or with profanity.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Compliance Inspector (CI) Laura Wilmesher conducted an investigation regarding the allegation that Ms. Beth speaks harshly to the children. After conducting the investigation, CI Wilmesher finds this allegation is substantiated. This conclusion is based on the following evidence of licensing rule violations which occurred at the facility:

On August 24, 2021, CI Wilmesher interviewed several staff members and children at the facility .

Caregiver Mackenzie Parks stated the first time Ms. Beth was in the classroom, the children were pronouncing her name "Bath" instead of "Beth," and Ms. Beth was getting upset with them and speaking with attitude to the children, telling them, "It's not bath, it's BETH, B-E-T-H." Ms. Beth's tone is harsh with the children.

Caregiver Ms. Tonya stated the first day she worked with Ms. Beth was Tuesday, August 17, 2021. Ms. Beth used a very vocal and harsh tone to tell the kids, "Sit down!".

Parent C (parent of Child C and also works at the facility) stated Child C has told her before that Ms. Beth isn't nice and yelled at him for running around the classroom.

Child B stated Ms. Beth yells at the kids and he doesn't like her.

Child C stated Ms. Beth wasn't nice and he yelled at him and the other children. Child C stated Ms. Beth yelled at Child A and told him to sit down.

CI Wilmesher interviewed caregiver Elizabeth "Beth" Stonebarger, who demonstrated how she told Child A, "We do not dump out Legos." CI Wilmesher observed Ms. Beth's tone sounded harsh during the demonstration.

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)3.

Only constructive, age-appropriate methods of discipline shall be used to help children develop self-control and assume responsibility for their own actions.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(C)7.

Physical punishment including, but not limited to, spanking, slapping, shaking, biting, or pulling hair shall be prohibited.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Compliance Inspector (CI) Laura Wilmesher conducted an investigation regarding the allegation that Ms. Beth placed her hands on Child A's shoulders, shaking the child roughly. After conducting the investigation, CI Wilmesher finds this allegation is substantiated. This conclusion is based on the following evidence of licensing rule violations which occurred at the facility:

On August 24, 2021, CI Wilmeshier interviewed staff members and children at the facility .

Caregiver Mackenzie Parks stated when Child A was running around the classroom , Ms. Beth grabbed Child A and sat him down forcefully in her lap. Ms. Beth held Child A in her lap for a couple of minutes, even after Child A stated, "That's hurting me."

Caregiver Tonya Williams stated Child A dumped the Legos on the floor , and Ms. Beth got out of her chair abruptly, got face-to-face with Child A, grabbed him on both of his shoulders, and shook him. Ms. Beth shook Child A for a good minute or so while telling Child A, "You do not throw my toys on the floor." Child A said, "Ouch, you're hurting my arm."

Child B stated Ms. Beth has pulled Child A by the arm when he's acting crazy and that Child A cried when Ms. Beth pulled him by the arm. Ms. Beth held Child A on her lap so he couldn't move, and Child A said, "Let me go," when Ms. Beth was holding him on her lap. Ms. Beth told Child A, "Don't go away from the carpet."

On August 24, 2021, CI Wilmeshier interviewed Child A. Although Child A did not disclose any information regarding Ms. Beth grabbing or shaking him, Child A stated Ms. Beth grabs Child C when he won't stop. Child A demonstrated how Ms. Beth grabs Child C by wrapping both of his own arms across his chest.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
The facility shall have all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers) obtain one clock hour of approved training on age-appropriate discipline. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/ . The local Child Care Aware agency may also assist in finding training. The Child Care Aware website can be found at http://www.childcareaware.org/ . Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report.	Yes	4/26/2022

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
The facility shall notify all staff members of the violations which were substantiated, and specify the actions to be taken by all staff in order to comply with all licensing violations cited. A copy of the memo, letter, or staff meeting agenda(s) shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.	Yes	4/26/2022

CORRECTIVE MEASURE	COMPLETED (Y/N)	COMPLETED DATE
All staff members (paid employees or unpaid volunteers) must take the 1.0 clock hour online training course titled, "Making a Difference: Protecting Health and Keeping Children Safe" available at https://health.mo.gov/safety/childcare/onlinetraining.php Verification of attendance shall be through the Toolbox report.	Yes	4/26/2022

DISPOSITION	DISPOSITION DATE
SUBSTANTIATED	12/23/2021

APPROVING SUPERVISOR
CHRISCO, MARLA