



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

DATE OF REPORT
11/19/2021

DVN
000685503

FACILITY NAME

COUNTRYSIDE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

FACILITY ADDRESS

12226 LADUE RD

CITY

ST LOUIS

ZIP CODE

63141-8123

PHONE NUMBER

(314) 434-2821

COUNTY

ST LOUIS

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

SPAULDING, STEPHANIE

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)1.

Caregivers shall not leave any child without competent adult supervision.

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

Caregivers shall provide frequent, direct contact so children are not left unobserved on the premises.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On November 19, 2021, compliance inspector, (CI) Spaulding investigated an allegation that toddler teachers left a toddler out on the back steps today, outside, alone. The teachers and whole class went inside building and were unaware of the child outside. The child was outside for several minutes before being discovered by another teacher. Based on interviews with staff of Countryside Montessori School and Parent A, this allegation is found to be substantiated and the following rule violations are being cited.

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)1: Caregivers shall not leave any child without competent adult supervision.

AND

5 CSR 25-500.182(1)(A)3: Caregivers shall provide frequent, direct contact so children are not left unobserved on the premises.

On November 23, 2021, director, Jennifer Hanser and caregivers, Lauren Hanser and Aliyah Henderson provided consistent statements that Child A was left outside on the porch for a minute and a half. Staff did not count the children and Child A was found by the cook on the steps entering the building before being returned to the classroom.

On November 23, 2021, Parent A stated that she was informed immediately and has no concerns with the facility because Child A is a known hider and a runner. Child A will continue to attend the facility.

On November 23, 2021, compliance inspector (CI) Spaulding received and reviewed and incident report for Child A. The incident report indicates that Child A was left outside at about 11:29 am on November 19, 2021 and that Parent A was notified immediately.

On November 23, 2021, CI Spaulding also received and reviewed staff incident reports that were completed by director, Jennifer Hanser regarding the incident involving Child A on November 19, 2021.

On November 23, 2021, compliance inspector (CI) Spaulding observed the outside space of Countryside Montessori School. CI Spaulding observed that the playground area is across a parking lot in the rear of the facility on the opposite side of the building from where Child A would have entered the facility to return to his classroom. In addition, CI Spaulding observed the steps area where Child A was left unobserved on the premise. CI Spaulding observed how Child A was hiding behind the door as it was being held for the other preschool children in Child A's classroom to enter the building.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

The facility shall conduct a staff meeting to review the center's policies and all licensing rules and regulations regarding supervision. The facility must provide the

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

11/30/2021

Office of Childhood with a statement, signed by all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers), to indicate they understand and agree to follow those rules and regulations.

CORRECTIVE MEASURE

All staff and volunteers must obtain one clock hours on supervision . The training must be held by an approved and qualified source, outside of the Countryside Montessori School network. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at <http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/>. Verification of training completion shall be from the Open Initiative Toolbox report.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

11/30/2021

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

5/1/2022

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CHRISCO, MARLA L