



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

DATE OF REPORT
7/10/2020

DVN
002540021

FACILITY NAME
UNITY ACADEMY, LLC

FACILITY ADDRESS
1801 W MAUD ST

CITY
POPLAR BLUFF

ZIP CODE
63901-4005

PHONE NUMBER
(573) 840-5082

COUNTY
BUTLER

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST
GRAHAM, JESSICA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(A)(5)

A caregiver shall remain in the room with preschool and school-age children while they are napping or sleeping and shall be able to see and hear them if they have difficulty during napping or when they awaken .

19 CSR 30-62.112 (1)(A)

Birth Through Two (2) Years. Groups composed of mixed ages through two (2)- years shall have no less than one (1) adult to four (4) children, with no more than eight (8) children in a group.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On July 14, 2020, Child Care Facility Specialist (CCFS) Jessica Graham investigated the allegation that staff members are required to leave sleeping children unattended in classrooms to complete chores throughout the facility. After interviewing caregivers throughout the facility, this allegation is substantiated.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(A)(5) A caregiver shall remain in the room with preschool and school-age children while they are napping or sleeping and shall be able to see and hear them if they have difficulty during napping or when they awaken .

CCFS Graham interviewed caregivers Meadow Boyer, Harley Earnheart and Krystina Lawson regarding nap time in the two year old and preschool unit. All three caregivers stated that they will leave their classrooms unattended to do chores throughout the building. Harley stated that a staff member will stand in the doorway of two classrooms during nap time to watch the children while they are doing chores. Krystina stated that she will leave the children unattended and will check on them at times while she is cleaning. The chores are done throughout the building in areas that are not close to the classrooms. Meadow stated that it could take up to an hour to do chores and that no one is in the classroom with the children.

19 CSR 30-62.112 (1)(A) Birth Through Two (2) Years. Groups composed of mixed ages through two (2)- years shall have no less than one (1) adult to four (4) children, with no more than eight (8) children in a group.

CCFS Graham interviewed caregivers Samantha Chism, Ashley Clinton and Nicki Goble regarding nap time in the infant and toddler units. Samantha stated a teacher from the toddler classroom will come over and cover her room for her if she is cleaning. That would leave only one teacher in the toddler classroom during nap time, leaving the classrooms out of ratio. Ashley and Nicki stated that a staff member will stand in the doorway between classrooms to cover both rooms while someone is doing chores.

Breanna Foust, director, stated that all the teachers have chores to do during nap time, but she was not aware that the staff members were leaving the children unattended in the rooms while doing the chores. Breanna said that she would bring in extra staff members to cover during nap time so that staff members could clean outside of their classrooms .

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

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All staff and volunteers must obtain one (2) clock hours of approved training on supervision. Training may be obtained from the Missouri Workshop Calendar. The training calendar can be found at <http://www.moworkshopcalendar.org/>. The local

COMPLETED (Y/N)
Yes

COMPLETED DATE
10/14/2020

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 uploaded to the Open Initiative Toolbox.

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 Section for Child Care Regulation 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.

COMPLETED (Y/N)

Yes

COMPLETED DATE

10/14/2020

DISPOSITION

SUBSTANTIATED

DISPOSITION DATE

8/17/2020

APPROVING SUPERVISOR

CLARK, ANGELA