

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

DATE OF REPORT 3/10/2021

DVN

002837998

FACILITY NAME

WEE WONDERS LEARNING CENTER

FACILITY ADDRESS

515 W SAINT JOSEPH ST

| CITY | ZIP CODE | PHONE NUMBER | COUNTY |
|------------|------------|----------------|--------|
| PERRYVILLE | 63775-1847 | (573) 547-3910 | PERRY |

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

GRAHAM, JESSICA

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(A)(3)

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

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(A)(7)

Caregivers shall provide special attention on an individual basis for new children having problems adjusting, distressed children, etc. Children shall be encouraged, but not forced to participate in group activities.

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(11)

Children shall not be permitted to intimidate or harm others, harm themselves or destroy property.

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

On March 10, 2021, Child Care Facility Specialist (CCFS) Jessica Graham investigated the allegation that on March 9, 2021 around 10am, Child A, age 5 years, pulled down Child B's, age 5 years, pants and touched her privates. This occurred in the playhouse on the preschool playground. Child C, age 4 years, saw this happen and told Tracy Watkins, caregiver. There have been 4 other documented incidents with Child A recently and staff were supposed to be providing closer supervision with Child A. While on the playground, caregiver Alyssa was doing worksheets with other children and it is unknown what other staff were doing. This allegation is substantiated based on the following rule violations:

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(C)(11) which states: "Children shall not be permitted to intimidate or harm others, harm themselves or destroy property."

AND

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(A)(7) which states: "Caregivers shall provide special attention on an individual basis for new children having problems adjusting, distressed children, etc. Children shall be encouraged, but not forced to participate in group activities."

AND

19 CSR 30-62.182 (1)(A)(3) which states: "Caregivers shall provide frequent, direct contact so children are not left unobserved on the premises."

Child B, age 5 years, stated that Child A, age 5 years, pulled her pants down in the playhouse outside and touched her privates with his hands on March 9, 2021. Child B stated that this has happened twice with Child A touching her privates at daycare. Child A stated that Ms. Katie and Ms. Alyssa, caregivers, were watching the class from the bench outside when Child A pulled her pants down and touched her privates.

Child C, age 5 years, stated that Child A touched Child B on her privates with her pants down while they were in the playhouse outside. Child C stated that the teachers were on the bench outside while the children were in the playhouse.

Caregivers Samantha Rader, Katie Schnurbush and Alyssa Statler all stated that Tracy Watkins, director, had told them that they should be supervising Child A closely due to past incidents that have been reported about him trying to pull girls pants down. Samantha stated that she knew that Child A had asked Child B to pull her pants down before this incident occurred on March 9. Katie stated that she was aware that a parent of Child E, age 3 years, had stated that Child A had touched Child E's "peepee" in the past. Katie stated that Child A had also recently been trying to go inside the bathroom with the girls. Tracy had told Katie to keep an eye on Child A. Alyssa stated that Child B had told the teachers on a previous date that Child A had tried

to pull her pants down, so she knew these types of behaviors were occurring with Child A.

Tracy Watkins, director, stated that she had told all staff to keep a close eye on Child A due to his behaviors. Tracy stated the Alyssa was outside on the playground when Child A touched Child B in the playhouse. Tracy stated that there have been issues in the past with Child A pulling girls pants down and wanting to follow the girls in the bathroom.

All the caregivers stated that they sit on the bench outside when they are with the children. Some caregivers stated that they are on their phones, and that Tracy does not mind if they are. Child B (age 5 years), Child C (age 4 years), Child D (age 5 years), and Child F (age 4 years) all stated that the teachers sit on benches when they are outside. The teachers do not walk around and do not play with the children. Some children stated that the teachers are playing games on their phones. Tracy stated that the teachers do sit on benches while they are outside with the children and they are allowed to look at their phones if they need to communicate with a parent.

CCFS Graham measured the distance from the bench, where staff are sitting outside, to the playhouse. The distance measured 22'.5". The playhouse has windows on each side that are open and a door on the front that is open, facing the bench.

CCFS Graham observed Child A's enrollment form. On the form a parent had wrote that Child A "can be touchy, as in he is still discovering the personal bubble thing. This includes touchy toward arms, head, etc. nothing bad."

CCFS Graham discussed this statement with Tracy, director, asking what this meant. Tracy stated that Child A does not understand personal space, which is what the parent meant on the form.

CCFS Graham observed four incident reports for Child A, age 5 years, regarding his actions. The reports were dated March 3, 2021; March 3, 2021; March 5, 2021; and March 9, 2021. All of these reports were signed by Father A on March 9, 2021.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES CORRECTIVE MEASURE COMPLETED (Y/N) COMPLETED DATE The facility shall notify all staff members of the violations which were Yes 7/19/2021 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 Section for Child Care Regulation, attention Jessica Spencer. **CORRECTIVE MEASURE** COMPLETED (Y/N) **COMPLETED DATE** Yes 7/13/2021 The facility shall develop and implement a plan as to how parents will be notified of any significant behavioral concerns that occur at the facility, and how the behavior is to be documented to be kept in the child's file. The plan shall be reviewed with all staff members (paid employees and paid/unpaid volunteers) and all staff members shall sign a statement that they understand and agree to adhere to the policy. These statements shall be submitted to the Section for Child Care Regulation, attention Jessica Spencer. **CORRECTIVE MEASURE** COMPLETED (Y/N) **COMPLETED DATE** All staff and volunteers must obtain one (2) clock hours on supervision. The Yes 7/14/2021 training must be held by an approved and qualified source, outside of the Wee Wonders Learning Center 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. Notify CCFS Jessica Spencer upon completion. **DISPOSITION DISPOSITION DATE** SUBSTANTIATED 5/6/2021 APPROVING SUPERVISOR CLARK, ANGELA