



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD - CHILD CARE COMPLIANCE

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION OF
SUBSTANTIATED STATUTE OR RULE VIOLATIONS

DATE OF REPORT
1/10/2023

DVN
002648826

FACILITY NAME

PLC KIDZ

FACILITY ADDRESS

5505 GATEWAY DR

CITY

JOPLIN

ZIP CODE

64804-8244

PHONE NUMBER

(417) 499-4398

COUNTY

NEWTON

ASSIGNED SPECIALIST

RADNEY, HEATHER E

RULE/STATUTE VIOLATION(S)

VIOLATION(S)

RSMo 210.254.2.

The notice of parental responsibility shall include the following:

RSMo 210.254.2.(3)

The staff/child ratios for enrolled children under two years of age, for children ages two to four and for those five years of age and older as required by the department of health and senior services regulations in licensed facilities, the standard ratio of staff to number of children for each age level maintained in the exempt facility, and the total number of children to be enrolled by the facility;

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

Compliance Inspector (CI) Heather Radney conducted an investigation of the allegation that the facility was out of ratio. The allegation is substantiated based on the following information:

RSMo 210.254.2. which states: "The notice of parental responsibility shall include the following:"

AND

RSMo 210.254.2.(3) which states: "The staff/child ratios for enrolled children under two years of age, for children ages two to four and for those five years of age and older as required by the department of health and senior services regulations in licensed facilities, the standard ratio of staff to number of children for each age level maintained in the exempt facility, and the total number of children to be enrolled by the facility;"

On January 18, 2023, caregiver Grace Sheehan stated that she has had six infants, alone, when someone will step out of the classroom for a couple of minutes.

On January 18, 2023, caregiver Sharayah Taylor stated that there had been a couple times where staff arrived late, so they sometimes would have 6 babies until the other infant/toddler teacher arrived. Their ratio for infant/toddlers would be 1:5 or 1:6 on those occasions.

On January 18, 2023, CI Radney reviewed the facility's Notice of Parental Responsibility form (NPR) that was signed August 1, 2022. The staff/child ratios for under 2 years of age is listed as 1:4 and for children 2-5 years of age is 1:10. When CI Radney arrived to conduct the investigation, one preschool caregiver was present at the front door, along with director Samantha Jones, leaving the preschool classroom with a ratio of 1:15.

On February 1, 2023, former caregiver Megan Lund stated that there were times when caregivers would leave the infant/toddler room, leaving the room out of ratio. Caregivers would leave to get cleaning supplies out of a closet in the hallway, go to the bathroom, or answer the door. This was an ongoing issue. In the preschool rooms, when they have 20 children especially during naptime, they don't have enough employees to step in for teachers to take a bathroom break. The preschool staff have to radio for someone to give a break and staff from the infant room would usually be the ones to relieve them, which meant the infant room was out of ratio.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

CORRECTIVE MEASURE 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 violations cited. A copy of the memo, letter, or staff meeting agenda shall be submitted to the Office of Childhood.		COMPLETED (Y/N) Yes	COMPLETED DATE 2/14/2023
DISPOSITION SUBSTANTIATED		DISPOSITION DATE 6/23/2023	
APPROVING SUPERVISOR FOX, ROMENA			