
Follow-up on Ways to Support Anna

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To: Poore, Brian <brian.poore@cms.k12.nc.us>

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Brian,

Thank you again for meeting with us and focusing on ways to support Anna. Your suggestion that Anna have a trusted person to talk with really resonated with us. It is encouraging to see such thoughtful support in helping her work through challenges and continue contributing to the team.

We spoke with Anna, and she would like the opportunity to share what she is experiencing after games and practices with you in a private setting. Please let us know a time or setting that works best for you. She is flexible and wants to make it as easy as possible.

Below are her notes from Friday's game, exactly as she wrote them:

Coach comes out to the mound and asks, "What happened?"

I said, "Nothing, I'm throwing the pitches you called."

He replied, "Are we really doing this?"

I asked, "Doing what? You're calling in the pitches. I've thrown literally everything you've called."

Then he said, "Well, I didn't mean for you to just throw all past balls." (I don't remember the exact phrasing of that quote, but it was something like that.)

Coach then asked me if [the catcher] was setting up where the pitches were being called. I told him I didn't know because I don't watch the catcher.

I said, "I am doing my job which you asked was to throw the pitches you called I have thrown every single pitches you've called. I am not watching the Catcher that's not my job. My job is to throw the pitches you called."

Then there was some more discussion about how the runs were scoring. At the end of the conversation, he put his hand out and said, "I'm making a change."

I started to walk away because that obviously meant I wasn't pitching anymore. But then I realized he probably had a problem with me walking away if I wasn't directly told to, so I stopped and stood facing the dugout. I waited there until he told me I was allowed to go back to the dugout.

After that, he came into the dugout and kept trying to ask me questions. All I could really tell him was either that I didn't know or that I threw the pitches he called.

This interaction with Coach Vinny made me feel annoyed because he had told me that he just wanted me to throw the pitches he called and not say anything about it. That's exactly what I did, and he still wasn't happy with the results, even though the results came from his own pitch calling. I didn't agree with the pitches that were called, which annoyed me a little more because

it reflects on my abilities. Nobody else knows that the pitch calling wasn't great, so it just looks like I'm missing my spots or pitching badly.

This situation made me feel kind of stupid because I couldn't do anything about it. I just had to let it happen because of the previous events and what we apparently agreed on.

What made it worse was that when he came into the dugout and kept questioning me, he eventually got really annoyed and told Glenn that he had to deal with me. Glenn didn't have any information about the situation because he wasn't part of that conversation, so now he was trying to defend Vinny without really knowing what he was defending. He also wouldn't really listen to me.

At that point, I just kept feeling more and more annoyed because I couldn't get my point across. I didn't want to argue with them, but I also felt like I didn't really have a choice. If I didn't say anything, then they would just tell the story however they wanted, and it would only be one-sided