
Escalation: Student Safety and Program Concerns - Myers Park Softball

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Thu, Mar 26 at 7:54 AM

To: Robert Folk <robert.folk@cms.k12.nc.us>

Cc: Turner, Ericia R. <ericiar.turner@cms.k12.nc.us>, Poore, Brian <brian.poore@cms.k12.nc.us>

Hi Ms. Turner and Principal Folk,

I want to clarify an issue with my prior communication on March 22nd.

It appears that my original email to Principal Folk may not have displayed correctly due to a formatting issue (white text on a white background), which may have made it appear blank. I did not realize this at the time of my follow-up.

For clarity, I am including the content of that original email below so there is a complete record of the concerns that were shared at the school level.

Hi Principal Folk and AD Poore,

I want to follow up regarding an interaction with Anna after the March 20 game.

It was clearly stated and agreed that Anna would not have one on one conversations with coaches without a safe person present. Despite this, after the game on March 20, Anna was pulled aside and engaged in a conversation with Assistant Coach Glenn without a safe person present. While another coach was nearby, that does not meet the agreed expectation of a safe person.

During that conversation, Anna stated that she does not feel safe around other people, and Coach Glenn responded, 'I know.' This interaction had already begun without a safe person present, which is the core concern.

This is the most important issue from our perspective. An agreed upon safeguard was not followed.

We have a recording of this conversation and have included a few excerpts below for accuracy.

At the start of the conversation, Anna clearly answers the coach's question:

Assistant Coach Glenn: Are you happy not getting in the game

Anna: No

Later in the same conversation, it is stated that she was not answering questions, which does not align with what actually occurred.

There is also a significant focus placed on Anna needing to "earn trust" and "engage," including expectations such as saying hello to coaches. At one point:

Assistant Coach Glenn: Every day you ignore him

Anna: I gave him thumbs up and nodded my head in agreement

Assistant Coach Glenn: Say hello when coaches speak to you

Anna: I did say hello to you

Assistant Coach Glenn: Every day I say hi to you, and today you say hi. You don't always say hi.

Even after acknowledging that she did say hello that day, the issue is reframed as her not doing it consistently. This feels less like constructive guidance and more like subjective or shifting expectations.

Additionally, when Anna asked what the coach is doing to rebuild trust, the response was:

Assistant Coach Glenn: He doesn't have to at this point. You do

This creates a one sided dynamic where all responsibility is placed on Anna, without any expectation of accountability on the coaching side.

We also want to note a pattern that is becoming concerning. After the previous game where Anna did not play, she handled the situation well and there were no issues. However, in the most recent game, although she again did not play and simply remained on the bench, she was still pulled into a discussion about her behavior. It is difficult for her to understand what is expected when the expectations appear to change or persist regardless of her actions.

This is not a workable dynamic for her.

Going forward, interactions with Anna need to be limited to clear, objective, softball related instruction. Any broader discussion about behavior, expectations, or her role on the team should only occur in a structured setting with a safe person present, as previously agreed.

We are aligned on the goal of helping Anna, and we need to ensure the approach being used supports that.

Thank you,

Morgan

[Quoted text hidden]