



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL  
LANSING

Michelle Richard  
ACTING DIRECTOR

6/4/2024

Central Lake Public Schools  
8210 Davis Street,  
Central Lake, MI, 49622

License Number: DC050304123  
Special Investigation Number: SI-00121960

Dear Central Lake Public Schools,

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing division received a complaint against your facility that related to licensing rules or law. The allegations were related to the following:

Rule/Law Number	Rule Description
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.

The details of the allegations are in the attached report. To investigate the allegations:

- I interviewed: .
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates:

As a result of this investigation, I found the following violation(s):

Rule/Law Number	Rule Description
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.

Upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend the issuance of a 1st provisional license. If you accept the provisional license, you must sign and return the

enclosed waiver form. If you do not accept the provisional license, you must notify this office in writing and an administrative hearing will be scheduled. Even if you don't accept the provisional license, you must still send us an acceptable corrective action plan.

As a result of this investigation, I found the following violation(s):

Rule/Law Number	Rule Description
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.

Upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend the issuance of a 1st provisional license.. If you accept the provisional license, you must sign and return the enclosed waiver form. If you do not accept the provisional license, you must notify this office in writing and an administrative hearing will be scheduled.

Due to the violations, you must send us a [corrective action plan](#) by 6/25/2024. You can use our corrective action plan form or create your own. Even if you don't accept the provisional license, you must still send us an acceptable corrective action plan.

If you need help writing the corrective action plan, please contact licensing consultant Sharon Riebel at (231) 262-3833 or [riebels@michigan.gov](mailto:riebels@michigan.gov). If you do not send a corrective action plan, you may face disciplinary action. The corrective action plan must include the following:


- How compliance with each rule will be achieved.
- Who is directly responsible for implementing the corrective action for each violation.
- Specific time frames for each violation as to when the correction will be completed or implemented.
- How continuing compliance will be maintained once compliance is achieved.
- The signature of the responsible party and a date.

<b>During this special investigation:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
A rule or law violation was found and a serious injury or death occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A rule or law violation was found and abuse and/or neglect of a child occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This report and any related corrective action plans must be filed in your licensing notebook. This report and any related corrective action plans will be online for parents to review under the [Statewide Search for Licensed Child Care Centers and Homes](#).

Please review this report for accuracy and contact your consultant, Sharon Riebel at (231) 262-3833 or [riebels@michigan.gov](mailto:riebels@michigan.gov). In the event that Sharon Riebel is not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the Child Care Licensing Bureau at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Riebel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Riebel, Licensing Consultant

Enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL  
CHILD CARE LICENSING**

**Report Type:** Special Investigation Report

**Date of Report:** 6/4/2024

<b>Special Investigation Number</b>	<b>Complaint/Incident Receipt Date</b>
SI-00121960	04/12/2024
<b>Investigation Initiation Date</b>	<b>Report Due Date</b>
4/24/2024	
<b>License Number</b>	<b>Licensee Name(s)</b>
DC050304123	Central Lake Public Schools
<b>Facility Name</b>	<b>Licensee Designee(s)</b>
Central Lake Public Schools	Anne Denison Thornton Darlene Kendall
<b>Program Type</b>	<b>Central Administrator(s)</b>
Center	
<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Program Director(s) Name</b>
90	Anne Denison Thornton <b>Qualifications:</b> R 400.8113(7)(a) (12). <b>Date PD Approved:</b> 2022-05-13 Darlene Kendall <b>Qualifications:</b> <b>Date PD Approved:</b>
<b>Facility Address</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b>
8190 W. State Street, Central Lake, MI, 49622	8210 Davis Street, Central Lake, MI, 49622
<b>Facility Phone Number</b>	<b>Facility Email Address</b>
2315443141	thornton@clps.k12.mi.us
<b>Original License Issuance Date</b>	<b>License Status:</b>
1/26/2010	Regular
<b>License Effective Date:</b>	<b>License Expiration Date:</b>
5/7/2023	5/6/2025

**ALLEGATION(S)**

	<b>Violation Established?</b>	
On 04/12/2024, Child A ran out of the preschool classroom and down the hall. He was not located for five minutes.	Yes	

## METHODOLOGY

Date	Activity
4/24/2024	Special Investigation Case Created SI-00121960
4/23/2024	Special Investigation Initiated via On-site Made and unannounced visit at 1:45 pm - 3:00pm. Interviewed the program director, Darleen Kendall and reviewed the route the child ran through the hallways.
4/26/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Called Child B's mother
4/26/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Interviewed Child A's mother.
4/26/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Called Child D's mother. There was no answer, I left a message.
5/2/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Follow up interview with the Program Director.
5/2/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Called CCSM 1. There was no answer, I left a message.
5/3/2024	Contact – Document Received Document received from Program Director Darlene Kendall.
5/8/2024	Contact – Phone Call Received Received call back and interviewed CCSM 1.
5/16/2024	Contact – Face to Face I interviewed CCSM 2 onsite.

**ALLEGATION:** On 04/12/2024, Child A ran out of the preschool classroom and down the hall. He was not located for five minutes.

**INVESTIGATION:** On April 23, 2024, I completed an unannounced inspection at Central Lake Public Schools. I talked with interim Program Director. The two caregivers who were present the day of the incident were not present. Ms. Kendall was walking back to the early childhood wing from lunch when she encountered CCSM 1 in the hallway. CCSM 1 explained Child A ran out of the classroom. PD spoke with the school's assistant principal who alerted the school's police liaison. The police liaison locked down the school. Hallways were empty because kids were at lunch. Child A was found at the other end of the school near the exit doors approximately 15 minutes after he left the classroom.

On 4/26/24, I interviewed Child A's Mother. She said that there has been an ongoing issue between Child A and CCSM 1 since he was moved into her classroom from the toddler room. CCSM 1 told Child A's Mother that she didn't not want Child A in her classroom, and he wasn't ready to be in the preschool class yet. Child A was

transitioned to the preschool classroom. As soon as Child A was dropped off, he would cry and cling to the parent dropping him off, as if he didn't want to go with CCSM 1. Another transition plan was made, and a different staff member would receive Child A when he was dropped off. It appeared Child A was afraid of CCSM 1. It was more concerning that this incident happened and CCSM 1 was the one in the classroom at that time. At first, Child A's Mother was told that Child A was screaming uncontrollably and CCSM 1 sat him in a chair and that's when he got up and left. She was then told that Child A and another child were playing chase and that's when he ran out. Child A's Mother feels the school hasn't been very clear about what happened.

I interviewed Child A's father on May 1, 2024. Child A's Mother called Child A's Father and let him know what happened. Child A's Father's understanding is that Child A was placed in a timeout by CCSM 1. He got up and ran out of the room. Child A's Father doesn't understand how CCSM 1 saw Child A run out of the room and didn't go get him immediately when he left the room. He believes that CCSM 1 never wanted Child A in her classroom to begin with, she was frustrated with Child A, and she didn't want to go get him after he left the room.

On May 8, 2024, I interviewed CCSM 1. Child A was getting the other children to use high pitched voices in the classroom and was running around. He was getting others stirred up. CCSM 1 set two chairs on opposite sides of the rooms and sat Child A and Child E in the chairs to settle down. This wasn't for a time out; there were cots on the floor and it wasn't safe to run through the classroom. While he was supposed to be sitting in the chair, Child A ran out the door. The child in the other chair started to follow him. CCSM 1 went right to the phone to call the office, but no one answered. Other children with behavioral issues could run out the door. CCSM 1 went out the door to follow Child A. The door of the next classroom was open, so CCSM 1 leaned in and said she needs help. CCSM 1 looked in the hallway where Child A goes to work on quiet activities to avoid disturbing children sleeping. He wasn't there. Everyone CCSM 1 met in the hallway was helping to look for Child A. Witness 1 went down the long wing to look for him. She found Child A down the long hall in the wing on the other end of the school. Child A had been missing about 15 minutes or so.

On May 17, 2024, I interviewed CCSM 2. CCSM 2 was changing a diaper at the time of the incident and did not see Child A run out the door. While she was changing the diaper she heard children yelling, "Child A left the room." CCSM 2 looked out of the bathroom and saw a group of children standing around the door, which was closed. CCSM 2 heard CCSM 1 say she's "had enough of this" as she walked away from the door, toward the desk in the room. While CCSM 1 was seated at the desk, Child E ran out the door. CCSM 1 dropped the phone and ran out in the hallway to bring Child E back into the room. CCSM 1 then went into the hallway to look for Child A. It had already been a minute or two since Child A left the classroom.


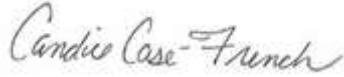
I interviewed the parents of Child B, Child C, and Child E. None of the parents had any concerns with supervision in the classroom.

**RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:**

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	CCSM 1 did not provide appropriate care and supervision when Child A left the classroom and was missing approximately 15 minutes.
CONCLUSION:	<b>Repeat Violation Established</b> <b>Reference:</b> : 12/16/2018 :Violation Established; : 9/11/2022 :Violation Established; : 3/8/2016 :Violation Established;

**BUREAU RECOMMENDATION**

Bureau Recommendation
Upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend the issuance of a 1st provisional license.

Approved By:			
			
Sharon Riebel Consultant	06/04/2024 Date	Candice Case-French Area Manager	06/04/2024 Date