



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

Marlon I. Brown, DPA  
ACTING DIRECTOR

12/18/2023

Virginia Pocius  
Dryden Community Schools  
3866 Rochester Rd,  
Dryden, MI, 48428

License Number: DC440261368  
Special Investigation Number: SI-00078584

Dear Ms. Pocius,

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 400.8155(1)	A center shall have a written plan for how and when a parent is notified when personnel observe any of the following:
R 400.8155(2)	A center shall ensure that a child who is too ill to remain in the group is placed in a separate area and is cared for and supervised until the parent arrives.
R 400.8137(1)	Except as provided in subrule (2) of this rule, diapering must occur in a designated diapering area that complies with all of the following:
R 400.8365(2)	The indoor temperature must be at least 65 degrees Fahrenheit in child use areas at a point 2 feet above the floor.
R 400.8365(3)	If temperatures exceed 82 degrees Fahrenheit, then a center shall take measures to cool the children.

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

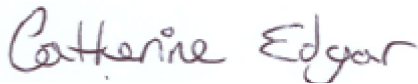
- I interviewed: The program director/licensee designee, child care staff members, and parents.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 10/25/2023

<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, Catherine Edgar at (810) 931-1380 or edgarc1@michigan.gov. In the event that Catherine Edgar is not available, and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the Child Care Licensing Bureau at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,



Catherine Edgar, Licensing Consultant

Enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
CHILD CARE LICENSING BUREAU**

**Report Type:** Special Investigation Report

**Date of Report:** 11/20/2023

<b>Special Investigation Number</b>	<b>Complaint/Incident Receipt Date</b>
SI-00078584	10/20/2023
<b>Investigation Initiation Date</b>	<b>Report Due Date</b>
10/23/2023	12/23/2023
<b>License Number</b>	<b>Licensee Name(s)</b>
DC440261368	Dryden Community Schools
<b>Facility Name</b>	<b>Licensee Designee(s)</b>
Cardinal Early Learning Academy	Virginia Marie Pocius
<b>Program Type</b>	<b>Central Administrator(s)</b>
Center	
<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Program Director(s) Name</b>
198	Virginia Marie Pocius <b>Qualifications:</b> R 400.8113(7)(f) (9). <b>Date PD Approved:</b> 2023-05-22
<b>Facility Address</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b>
3835 N Mill Road, Dryden, MI, 48428	3866 Rochester Rd, Dryden, MI, 48428
<b>Facility Phone Number</b>	<b>Facility Email Address</b>
8107962201	sabromaitis@drydenschools.org
<b>Original License Issuance Date</b>	<b>License Status:</b>
10/24/2003	Regular
<b>License Effective Date:</b>	<b>License Expiration Date:</b>
4/28/2022	4/27/2024

**ALLEGATION(S)**

	<b>Violation Established?</b>	
Incident reports are not being completed.		No
Sick children are not being sent home.		No
The infant room is sometimes too hot (84 degrees)		No
Diaper changing pad is not being properly cleaned.		No
The infant room is sometimes too cold (62 degrees).		No

## METHODOLOGY

Date	Activity
10/23/2023	Special Investigation Case Created SI-00078584
10/25/2023	Special Investigation Initiated via On-site Unannounced onsite inspection, 12:10pm - 1:10pm. Interview with program director Virginia Pocius, Child Care Staff Members 1, 2 & 3.
10/25/2023	Contact – Phone Call Made Interview with Child Care Staff Member 4 (CCSM4),
10/25/2023	Contact – Email Sent E-mail sent to Child A's mother and father.
10/25/2023	Contact – Email Sent E-mail sent to Child B's mother.
10/25/2023	Contact – Email Sent E-mail sent to Child C's mother and father.
10/25/2023	Contact – Email Sent E-mail sent to Child D's mother and father.
10/25/2023	Contact – Email Sent E-mail sent to Child F's mother.
10/25/2023	Contact – Email Received E-mail from Child A's mother.
10/25/2023	Contact – Email Sent E-mail sent to Child E's mother and father.
11/01/2023	Contact – Telephone call to Child B's mother.
11/01/2023	Contact – Email sent to Child G's mother.
11/01/2023	Contact – E-mail sent to Child H's father,
11/01/2023	Contact – Telephone call received. Interview with Child B's mother.
11/01/2023	Contact – Email received from Child H's father.
11/07/2023	Contact – E-mail received from Child G's mother.

11/07/2023	Exit Conference E-mail sent to program director/licensee designee Virginia Pocius.
11/07/2023	Special Investigation Completed – Full Compliance.

**ALLEGATION:** Incident reports are not being completed.

**INVESTIGATION:**

On October 25, 2023, I made an unannounced onsite inspection to the child care center. I interviewed program director/licensee designee Virginia Potius. She told me that they always do incident reports and that no parent has ever complained about not receiving incident reports. While at the center I spoke to Child Care Staff Member 1 (CCSM1), who confirmed that incident reports are always completed, when required and showed me two incident reports that had recently been completed in the infant classroom. No parents have complained to her about not receiving incident reports. I also spoke to CCSM2 and CCSM3 while in the infant classroom. Both confirm that incident reports are to be completed and neither has heard any parent complain about not receiving one. I reviewed recent incident reports while I was in the classroom and it appeared that the infant classroom was completely incident reports, when appropriate. On October 28, 2023, I interviewed CCSM4, who was out sick when I made the onsite inspection to the child care center. CCSM4 confirmed that she works in the infant room and that incident reports are always completed and recalled just doing an incident report recently. During the investigation I attempted to contact the parents of seven children enrolled and attending the child care infant room. As of the date of this report, I have heard back from four of the parents. Child A's mother said that she always receives incident reports if Child A (male, age 1) has had any injuries. Child B's mother stated that she always gets reports of any accidents or incidents involving Child B (male, age 1 1/2) and had no concerns whatsoever. Child G's mother said that while she hasn't received very many incident reports, Child G (female, age 1) has never come home with any unexplained injuries. Child H's father said he had absolutely no concerns regarding the center's care of Child H (male, age 1).

**RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:**

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8155(1)	A center shall have a written plan for how and when a parent is notified when personnel observe any of the following:
ANALYSIS:	Incident reports are being completed.

CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED
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**ALLEGATION:** Sick children are not being sent home.

**INVESTIGATION:**

On October 25, 2023, I made an unannounced onsite inspection to the child care center. I interviewed program director/licensee designee Virginia Potius. She told me that they are adamant about always following their illness policy and sick children are always sent home. While at the center I spoke to Child Care Staff Member 1 (CCSM1), who confirmed that they follow the center handbook regarding illness and if children are sick, they are sent home. I also spoke to CCSM2 and CCSM3 while in the infant classroom. CCSM2 told me that the illness policy is always strictly followed. CCSM3 couldn't really speak to it as she was just a sub. and has only been in this classroom a couple of times. On October 28, 2023, I interviewed CCSM4, who was out sick when I made the onsite inspection to the child care center. CCSM4 said that they always follow the center's illness policy in the infant room. Earlier this year they had dealt with both hand, foot and mouth disease and pink eye. and followed the center's illness policy. During the investigation I attempted to contact the parents of seven children enrolled and attending the child care infant room. As of the date of this report, I have heard back from four of the parents. Child A's mother said that she is always contacted to pick up Child A from the center when Child A (male, age 1) has a fever and had no concerns about the center not following their illness policy. When I asked Child B's mother about if the center was not following their illness policy, she stated that the opposite is true and that the center contacts parents to get their child for any illness whatsoever. Child G's mother said that the center always follows their illness policy and that she had recently been contacted to pick up Child G (female, age 1), who appeared to be fine but had just vomited. Child H's father said he had absolutely no concerns regarding the center's care of Child H (male, age 1).

**RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:**

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8155(2)	A center shall ensure that a child who is too ill to remain in the group is placed in a separate area and is cared for and supervised until the parent arrives.
ANALYSIS:	The center is following their illness policies.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

**ALLEGATION:** The infant room is sometimes too hot (84 degrees)

**INVESTIGATION:**

On October 25, 2023, program director/licensee designee Virginia Potius informed me the school is in the process of getting a new boiler to address issues with classroom temperatures. If the infant room gets too warm, they use fans to cool the room down. They will also take children to the air-conditioned indoor playground. The temperature of the classroom at the time of the onsite inspection was 76 degrees. CCSM1 did not recall the classroom ever being too hot while she was working there and denied any of the parents have complained about the room temperature. CCSM2 did not recall a time in which the infant classroom was above 84 degrees, but she did not work in the infant classroom during the summer. Fans are used if the classroom were to get too warm. CCSM3 said that she has never worked in the classroom when the temperature was too hot. CCSM4 acknowledged that the classroom sometimes gets warm. When it does, they utilize the air-conditioned areas of the school. She denied that the classroom had ever been above 84 degrees when she was working there. Child A's mother said that the classroom was warm in the summer months, but she did not feel that it was excessive or could not be remedied by having the children wear lighter clothing. Child B's mother stated that the classroom does get warm but knows that this is being addressed with a bond that passed for a new HVAC system for the center. Child G's mother said that sometimes the classroom gets really warm, but she knows that they are working on getting air-conditioning in all the classrooms and staff will notify parents to dress their children accordingly if they anticipate the classroom will be warm. Child H's father did not have any concerns about the infant classroom being too hot.

**RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:**

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8365(3)	If temperatures exceed 82 degrees Fahrenheit, then a center shall take measures to cool the children.
ANALYSIS:	Step were taken to cool the infant room when it became warm.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

**ALLEGATION:** Diaper changing pad is not being properly cleaned.

**INVESTIGATION:**

On October 25, 2023, I made an unannounced onsite inspection to the child care center. I interviewed program director/licensee designee Virginia Potius. She told me that they use the 3-step process after diapering, which is washing, rinsing, and

sanitizing. while at the center, I observed the infant room diaper changing area. Bottles of soapy water, clean water, and sanitizing solution were all within close proximity of the diaper changing area. I also had staff test the bleach strength while I was present, and it was at an appropriate level (between 50ppm and 200ppm). I asked each of the child care staff members individually what the procedure was for diapering and all four of the child care staff I spoke to during this investigation confirmed that the 3-step process was followed after each diaper change. During the investigation, I attempted to contact the parents of seven children enrolled and attending the child care infant room. As of the date of this report, I have heard back from four of the parents. None of the parents interviewed had any concerns about diaper changing procedures in the infant classroom.

**RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:**

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8137(1)	Except as provided in subrule (2) of this rule, diapering must occur in a designated diapering area that complies with all of the following:
ANALYSIS:	There is no evidence that the diaper changing pad was not being cleaned properly.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

**ALLEGATION:** The infant room is sometimes too cold (62 degrees).

**INVESTIGATION:**

On October 25, 2023, I made an unannounced onsite inspection to the childcare center. I interviewed program director/licensee designee Virginia Potius. She told me that the school is in the process of getting a new boiler. The current boiler did take 24 hours to get going on the first cold day of this school year, however. The room was cold on this day, so they opened up the two doors that lead directly to the school hallway and that warmed up the room. She said that the coldest the room was on that date was 65 degrees but that the room warmed up considerably when they opened the doors to the hallway. At the time of the onsite inspection, the classroom was 76 degrees. CCSM1 did not recall the classroom ever being too cold while she was working there and could not recall a time where the temperature in the infant room was below 70 degrees. She denied that any parents had ever mentioned anything about the temperature of the room being too cold. CCSM2 did not recall a time in which the infant classroom was below 65 degrees. CCSM3 denied the classroom was ever too cold but stated that she is a sub and has not worked in this room often. CCSM4 also denied recalling a time where the classroom may have been below 65 degrees. Child A's mother did not have



any concerns about the classroom being too cold. She was aware that the school is in the process of updating their HVAC system, however. Child B's mother did not feel that the classroom had ever been too cold when she dropped off or picked up Child B. Neither Child G's mother nor Child H's father had any concerns about the classroom being too cold.

**RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:**

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8365(2)	The indoor temperature must be at least 65 degrees Fahrenheit in child use areas at a point 2 feet above the floor.
ANALYSIS:	There is no evidence that the infant room temperature ever dropped below 64 degrees.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

**BUREAU RECOMMENDATION**

Bureau Recommendation
I recommend the no change in the status of the license.

Approved By:			
	11/20/23		
Catherine Edgar Consultant	Date	Crecendra Boone Area Manager	12/18/2023 Date