



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

Dr Beverly Wa ker Griffea
ACTING DIRECTOR

REVIEWED FOR REDACTIONS

7/12/2024

Jeanine Beck
Romeo Comm Schools Child Development
175 Crosswell,
Romeo, MI, 48065

License Number: DC500018902
Special Investigation Number: SI-00121642

Dear Jeanine Beck,

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing bureau 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.
R 400.8140(2)	All of the following means of punishment are prohibited:

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

- I interviewed: the licensee designee, parents, child care staff members, parents, witnesses, and any other individuals with pertinent information.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 04/18/2024

During this special investigation:	Yes	No
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](#).

You will be sent two copies of this report. One is **not for public disclosure** and one is a **redacted report**.

- The report marked **not for public disclosure** is for your records only. This copy may contain legally protected information. It must not be placed in your licensing notebook.
- The report marked **redacted report** may have some legally protected information blacked out. If you do not have internet available for online review, **redacted report** and any related corrective action plans must be filed in your licensing notebook. The **redacted 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, Latonya Kegler at (586) 256-1280 or keglerr@michigan.gov. In the event that Latonya Kegler is not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the Child Care Licensing Bureau at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,



Latonya Kegler, Licensing Consultant

Enclosure

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

Report Type: Special Investigation Report

Date of Report: 7/12/2024

Special Investigation Number	Complaint/Incident Receipt Date
SI-00121642	04/11/2024
Investigation Initiation Date	Report Due Date
4/17/2024	06/10/2024
License Number	Licensee Name(s)
DC500018902	Romeo Comm Schools Child Development
Facility Name	Licensee Designee(s)
Croswell Childrens Center	Jeanine A Beck
Program Type	Central Administrator(s)
Center	
Capacity	Program Director(s) Name
553	
Facility Address	Mailing Address
175 Croswell, Romeo, MI, 48065	175 Croswell, Romeo, MI, 48065
Facility Phone Number	Facility Email Address
5867520314	jeanine.beck@romeok12.org
Original License Issuance Date	License Status:
//	Provisional 2
License Effective Date:	License Expiration Date:
3/12/2024	9/12/2024

ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
On April 10, 2024, Child A was observed with marks on his arm which appear to be consistent with him being grabbed.	No

METHODOLOGY

Date	Activity
4/17/2024	Special Investigation Case Created SI-00121642
4/11/2024	Special Investigation Initiated via Phone Call Interview with MDHHS worker Tonya Thomas

4/17/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Interview with Child A's Mother
4/18/2024	Inspection Completed On-Site Joint interviews with Tonya Thompson, Romeo PD officer Richard Soulliere, Croswell Special Ed Staff, and Afterschool ccsm's. (1:30pm-5:00pm)
4/18/2024	Exit Conference with Licensee designee Jeanine Beck
5/9/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Pre-Dispositional Case Conference (PDCC) with Tonya Thompson.

ALLEGATION: On April 10, 2024, Child A was observed with marks on his arm which appear to be consistent with him being grabbed.

INVESTIGATION:

On April 11, 2024, the department received a complaint that Child A (male, 4 years of age) had unexplained marks on the back of his arm that appear to be consistent with being grabbed too forcefully. Child A is dually enrolled in special education at the Croswell Education Center as well as the Croswell Childrens Center afterschool program which is licensed by the department. Child A was in care at both programs on April 10, 2024, which is the date the injury was observed. On April 11, 2024, I interviewed Michigan department of health and human services (MDHHS) worker Tonya Thomas. She made a face-to-face contact with Child A and attempted to assess his injuries. Due to his medical diagnosis, he was unable to verbalize how the injuries occurred. When she attempted to look at his injuries, he had a panic attack and she was unable to obtain pictures of his injuries. She advised Child A's Mother to seek treatment for him for his injuries. Child A's Mother reported to Tonya Thomas that she believes the injuries occurred in his special education classroom. The medical report denoted Child A's injury in question was a linear mark eight centimeters long on the mid right outer arm that is consistent with a scratch/scrape. It was also noted that a faint round patch erythema was observed on the inner left arm. According to Tonya Thomas the medical report does not suggest that the mark is consistent with being grabbed. On April 17, 2024, I interviewed Child A's Mother. On April 10, 2024, she picked Child A up from the afterschool program. Child care staff member 1 (CCSM) and CCSM2 both reported that Child A had a good day and there were no incidents when he arrived at the afterschool program from the special education program. The mother thought that it was weird because he normally has transition issues when he arrives to the afterschool program as well as when she picks him up at the end of the day. He did not have any melt downs when she picked him up at the end of the day. At bathtime around 8pm she observed the marks on the back of Child A's arm which looked like finger prints or abrasions from being grabbed too forcefully. She believed the abrasions/scratches possibly came from the rings child care staff were wearing. When she tried to ask Child A what happened to his arm, he would only reply, "that's not nice." She sent the special education school social worker pictures of his injuries inquiring what happened. She was informed that there were no incidents at the special education classroom but

reported that he had a “red day” at school. Child A’s Mother explained that a red day means he displayed poor behavior throughout the day. Child A was dropped off at his special education classroom that morning by his maternal grandfather. She later was told by Child A’s grandfather that Child A did not want to stay at school and was having a panic attack. He informed her that the staff at the special education program had to physically lift him up off the floor because he was having a meltdown at drop off time. Child A’s Mother believes that this is when the injury occurred. Since she was provided this additional information from the grandfather, she no longer believes that the injury is from physical abuse or inappropriate discipline she believes it was lack of communication to her that he had to be physically touched. If she knew he had to be physically restrained she would not have been so upset about his injury. Child A has a substitute teacher and assistant in the special education program and believes that they need additional training in how to properly restrain and redirect children. Child A’s Mother does not believe the injury occurred in the Croswell afterschool program and reported that Child A loves CCSM1 and CCSM2. She has no concerns with the care or supervision that Child A receives in the licensed afterschool program. He is still enrolled in the afterschool program. I explained to Child A’s Mother that due to Child A having unexplained marks on his arm and being dually enrolled in both programs that multiple agencies will need to investigate. I asked Child A’s Mother if I had permission to try to interview Child A. She declined for him to be interviewed by this consultant. She explained that when Tonya Thomas attempted to interview him and look at his injury it caused him to have a panic attack and it took a few days for her to regulate his behavior again. She also replied that he is very intelligent but is unable to verbalize his thoughts and he likely wouldn’t provide any information to this consultant. On April 18, 2024, I conducted a joint onsite investigation at the Croswell Childrens Center with Tonya Thomas and Richard Soulliere, police officer with the Romeo police department. Licensee Designee /program director Jeanine Beck was interviewed regarding the allegations. On the day of the incident, Child A had two child care staff members (ccsm’s) that were responsible for his care during the afterschool program. Jeanine Beck denied that Child A’s Mother had any concerns regarding the care and supervision provided by their program. There were no staffing issues in the afterschool program on the day of the incident. According to the attendance records submitted by Jeanine Beck there was a 2:18 child care staff member to child ratio. CCSM1 and CCSM2 were the child care staff members responsible for Child A’s care on the day of the incident. Jeanine Beck described CCSM1 as patient and calm with children. She described CCSM2 as approachable, funny, kind hearted and calm. Jeanine Beck denied that any prior allegations have been made against either of the CCSM’s regarding inappropriate discipline or not providing appropriate supervision or care of children. The centers discipline policy denotes that positive methods of discipline will be used in conjunction with redirection. I reviewed the staff files for both CCSM1 and CCSM2. The licensee designee completed the required background fingerprint clearance requests. There was nothing in their files that would indicate that they were not eligible to work with children. Both CCSM1 and CCSM2 were interviewed during the onsite investigation. CCSM1 denied that there were any staffing issues on the day of the incident. She was in the room with CCSM2. CCSM1 reported Child A transitioned to aftercare after being in the special education program. He was really good at transition that day. He came in

smiling with his backpack and put it away on his own. "He was good for us. When he arrives, I typically get on my knees to hug him, but he wouldn't hug me which was odd but he didn't appear in any distress." He wouldn't let her roll up his sleeves to wash his hands and he normally cooperates with that request. The discipline method she uses with Child A are talking. He usually does what she requires. Sometimes, she will have to redirect him by picking him up and carrying him especially if he tries to run off before entering into their classroom. Once in the room he is fine. She picks him up under the shoulder area. CCSM1 was in the room with her on the day of the incident and is usually the assistant in the room. CCSM1 denied that she used any methods of inappropriate discipline with Child A and she has never seen CCSM2 interact with Child A in an inappropriate manner. She has never seen CCSM2 get frustrated with Child A or any other child to the level where it is concerning. She recalled two different times when Child A was picked up by ccsms. The first time was by CCSM2 when she had to pick him up to get him off of the bike during gym time. This was not an unusual practice. He normally cries and throws himself to the ground when it is time to get off of the bikes, and it is customary to have to pick him up to remove him from the bike. On the day of the incident, he did not cry or throw himself on the ground when CCSM2 told him it was time to get off of the bike. It was a good day, CCSM2 assisted him in getting off the bike and he was ready with no incident. The other time Child A needed redirection was by CCSM1 when they returned to the classroom after gym time. "A parent came and he tried to run out of the room. I had to pick him up under his arm pits and lifted him up to stop him from running out of the room. He didn't seem distressed he was laughing he thinks it is a game." CCSM1 reported that she has never been accused of using inappropriate discipline with a child in the past. Child A's Mother messaged CCSM1 the night of the incident to report to her that she tried to reach Child A's special education teachers and they were not responding. She sent her pictures of Child A's injury and had concerns that he was inappropriately disciplined by an adult in the special education program. CCSM1 reported that he seemed fine when he arrived in her care and referred her to Jeanine Beck for assistance in how to reach staff from the special education program. CCSM2 denied that there were any staffing issues in the room on the day of the incident. CCSM2 reported that when Child A transitioned into their room he had on his coat and was carrying his backpack. Child A was not in any distress when he arrived at their program and he had a good day while in the aftercare program. CCSM2 reported that the method of discipline she uses with Child A is talking and redirection. There are certain toys and cars he loves to play with so we ensure he has his favorite things. On days when he is struggling, CCSM1 sits on the floor and just holds him while reassuring him that he is ok. CCSM1 did not have to hold him on the day of the incident. He has been having good days in out after school program. The only time CCSM2 has to redirect him is during gym time when he does not want to get off of the bike. She assists him with removing his helmet first and then she grabs him by his wrist/hand. If it is a bad day for Child A, she will physically pick up Child A under his armpits to remove him from the bike. The day of the incident, he was very cooperative. When she reached out her hand, he grabbed it and got off the bike with no problem. He was not in any distress. There is one student that Child A will have conflicts with occasionally, however this child was not present on the day of the incident. The only other time that Child A had to be redirected on the day of the incident

is when Child A ran into the hallway. CCSM1 had to run after Child A to bring him back into the classroom. CCSM2 did not witness how CCSM1 picked up Child A because she remained in the room with the other children. "He is normally good with CCSM1 and he prefers her over me." They both returned to the room in less than one minute and he was fine, he wasn't crying or distressed when he returned to the room with CCSM1. CCSM2 denied that she used any inappropriate methods of discipline with Child A. CCSM2 has no concerns at all with how CCSM1 interacts with Child A. CCSM1 is very loving towards him and tells him she loves him all the time. The center does not have cameras in the classrooms but have them in the hallways and in the gymnasium. Jeanine Beck denied that CCSM1 or CCSM2 reported any incidents with Child A on the day of the incident while in the aftercare program. Jeanine Beck provided video footage from the gym time during his time in the aftercare program. There was nothing on the video that appeared concerning with how the ccsm's interacted with Child A. Jeanine Beck also provided video footage of the hallway when Child A arrived in the morning for his special education program and the hallway footage when he was transitioning to the afterschool program at the end of his day with the special education program. Staff1 who identified herself as the director for the special education program was present during the review of the video footage. The video showed Child A arriving to the school with his grandfather. At the start of the day, Staff2 and Staff3 could be observed coming out into the hallway to greet the children and parents. Child A can be seen having a meltdown and falling down on the floor. Staff2 struggled getting Child A to his feet as they proceeded down the hallway and into the classroom. She made several attempts to lift Child A to his feet by lifting him underneath his armpit area. The next video footage was at the end of the day and Child A was walking down the hallway with Staff2. Child A was observed on the video falling on the floor as Staff2 was attempting to walk him to the afterschool program. Staff2 was observed trying repeatedly to get Child A to stand to his feet so he could walk down the hallway. She tried to lift him up under his arms/waist area. In both interactions with Staff2 there was nothing on the video that was viewed as her using inappropriate discipline or handling him in an inappropriate manner. I did not observe Staff2 grab Child A by his arm in the area of his injury during the two incidents observed on the video. During the interview with Staff1 she reported that it is common for children with Child A's diagnosis to throw themselves on the floor if they don't want to transition. Staff2 tried to reposition him to his feet which is not an uncommon practice. "We try our best to ensure the safety of all children in our program. The picture received from Child A's Mother looked like a linear scratch on the right arm, the left arm looked more like abrasion from a rash. This was inconsistent with what Child A's Mother reported to the special education staff that the mark looked like fingerprints on Child A's arm from being grabbed. I did not see any fingerprint marks on the pictures Child A's Mother submitted to the school." Staff1 confirmed that there are no cameras in the special education classroom. She denied that her staff have any prior allegations of inappropriate discipline of children. Staff have received training from the crisis prevention institute (CPI) on appropriate methods to use for de-escalation techniques. Staff2 is a substitute teacher employed by Edustaff. Staff1 was unable to confirm if Staff2 received CPI training. Staff1 ensures there is an extra staff person in the room due to the needs of the children in the room. Staff are prohibited from restraining children, but they are

trained on how to reposition themselves and lift children up under their armpits and not by their arms. During the onsite investigation Staff2 was interviewed regarding the allegations. Child A has a challenging time with transitions. He does things on his own terms and often times won't respond to verbal requests. When his regular teacher went on medical leave he was moved into a different classroom and the behaviors have escalated. She has been the substitute teacher for Child A since January of 2024. He does not willingly come into the room even though they try to encourage him. She denied that she did anything to Child A to intentionally physically discipline or harm him. She denied that she has ever been accused of using inappropriate physical discipline with children. The technique she uses is picking him up under his arms to support him in standing to his feet. It takes several minutes to get him to transition from school door to the classroom. He likes routine and doesn't like anything different. She uses choice boards and green activities are what we encourage. Red boards are for behaviors that are not encouraged. Child A displays red board behaviors three to five days per week. She did not recall if he was on red board on the day of the incident because on most days he is on the red board. They have a calming center inside of the classroom where he can sit on bean bags to regulate himself. Staff2 has not had the CPI training. Child A had on a long sleeve shirt so she did not observe any marks on Child A. The assistants are the staff that usually change his diapers and none of them reported seeing any marks on Child A. She denied any concerns with how other staff interact with Child A. Since the incident, Child A's grandfather now walks him down to the classroom instead of dropping him off near the entrance to the building thus far it seems the morning transition has improved. Staff3 was interviewed during the onsite investigation. Staff3 was not in the hallway during Child A's arrival on the day of the incident, however, she confirmed that Child A has a hard time transitioning down the hallway at the arrival of the day and typically throws himself on the ground. He requires a lot of prompting throughout the day, but he had a decent day on the day of the incident. There is nothing that stood out in her memory that could explain his injury. They have prompt cards with pictures to show him the next activity to encourage him. He is able to correct himself when he is shown the cards. If we have to physically redirect him it is written on the behavior log. Staff3 did not need to physically redirect him that day. She didn't witness any other staff have to redirect him physically. No concerns regarding Staff2 or any other staff in how they redirect children. She denied witnessing or having any knowledge of Staff2 or any other staff using inappropriate physical discipline. "We don't pull them by their arms. If we redirect, we pick them up under their armpit area and try to position our feet so that if they fall down their hand lands on our feet." Child A had on a long sleeve shirt the day of the incident. She does the diapering for Child A. "I don't do body checks so I would not have had a reason to look at his arms. We do not have to pick up children for diapering, they walk up the stair to the changing table and lay down. Child A typically will yell out when you touch him, and I do not recall him doing that or appearing to be in any distress. He was sent home on red but that is common for Child A." Staff4 was interviewed during the onsite investigation. She witnessed Child A's arrival to school and confirmed that he was having a difficult time transitioning to class after he was dropped off by his grandfather. She was in the hallway with Staff2 but was walking in front of Staff2 with a group of children. She could hear him making noises and when she turned around, he was

throwing himself on the ground. She observed Staff2 struggling with getting him to walk down the hallway. Once inside the room they let him sit in the calming center and was fine after a few minutes. She recalled that he didn't want to go outside and he was screaming. She denied he was injured while outside. She recalled him having a lot of red behaviors which have increased since his regular teacher has been out. When Child A was ready to transition to the afterschool program, he again began throwing himself to the ground and Staff2 was again struggling with him standing up and walking down the hallway. When she looked down the hallway toward Child A and Staff2 she observed another staff person in the hall assisting Staff2. Staff4 was ahead in the hallway and was unable to see how Staff2 managed Child A. Child A will react if he is touched and is very sensitive, she did not recall any incidents of him in distress while walking down the hallway. She has never witnessed Staff2 or any other staff physically discipline Child A or any other child. She has no concerns regarding how Staff2 or any other staff interacts with Child A. She described Staff2 as very direct and knows the kids well. I've never seen her frustrated with Child A or any other child. Staff4 denied that she used inappropriate physical discipline with Child A. She denied that she had to use redirection of any kind with Child A on the day of the incident. Physical discipline is prohibited and she reported that she uses the cards for redirection. She did not recall changing Child A's diaper on the day of the incident. Child A had on a long sleeve shirt so she would not have noticed any marks. After the interview with Staff4, I asked Jeanine Beck if she was aware of the staff person who was in the hallway assisting Staff2. Jeanine Beck reported the person was CCSM3. She was not present during the onsite investigation; however, Jeanine Beck provided a written statement from CCSM3 that detailed what she witnessed. The statement indicated that she was coming down the hallway to use the restroom when she observed Staff2 and Child A in the hallway. Staff2 was trying to pick up Child A so he could walk. He was on the floor crying and saying no and scooting his legs backwards to go in the opposite direction. CCSM3 walked over to Child A, leaned over and asked if he would like to hold her hand. He grabbed her hand, stood up and began walking down the hallway towards the classroom. Once they got to the classroom door she let go of Child A's hand. Staff2 said thank you and proceeded into the room with Child A.

On May 9, 2024, a pre-dispositional case conference (PDCC) was conducted with Tonya Thompson, her case is being closed.

RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:


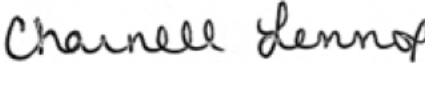
APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	The child care staff members provided appropriate care and supervision of Child A.
CONCLUSION:	Violation Not Established

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APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8140(2)	All of the following means of punishment are prohibited:
ANALYSIS:	There is insufficient evidence to conclude that child care staff members in the afterschool program used inappropriate discipline techniques with Child A. The discipline described and observed in the discipline policy were appropriate in nature.
CONCLUSION:	Violation Not Established

BUREAU RECOMMENDATION

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

Approved By:	
 07/12/2024	
Latonya Kegler Consultant Date	Charnell Lennox Area Manager 7/31/2024 Date