



STATE OF MICHIGAN
 DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
 LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
 GOVERNOR

ORLENE HAWKS
 DIRECTOR

March 9, 2022

Sarah Cooper
 Ludington Area Schools
 809 E Tinkham Ave
 Ludington, MI 49431

RE: License #: DC530409274
 Investigation #: 2022D1073004
 Ludington Area Schools Preschool

Dear Ms. Cooper:

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:

R 400.8125(1) Staff and Volunteers.

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

- I interviewed: the person who made the complaint, program director, licensee, licensee designee, caregivers, and witnesses.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 1/18/2022.

As a result of this investigation, I recommend no change to the current license status. I did not find any violations. The special investigation report is attached.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tarah Kline".

Tarah Kline, Licensing Consultant
Child Care Licensing Bureau
611 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909
Cell: 616-916-2490
Fax: 517-763-0217

enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT**

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DC530409274
Investigation #:	2022D1073004
Complaint Receipt Date:	01/13/2022
Investigation Initiation Date:	01/18/2022
Report Due Date:	03/14/2022
Licensee Name:	Ludington Area Schools
Licensee Address:	809 E Tinkham Ave Ludington, MI 49431
Licensee Telephone #:	Unknown
Administrator:	Sarah Cooper, Designee
Licensee Designee:	Sarah Cooper, Designee
Name of Facility:	Ludington Area Schools Preschool
Facility Address:	5771 W. Bryant Ludington, MI 49431
Facility Telephone #:	(231) 845-3850
Original Issuance Date:	12/22/2021
License Status:	ORIGINAL
Effective Date:	12/22/2021
Expiration Date:	06/21/2022
Capacity:	75
Program Type:	CHILD CARE CENTER

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Child A (male, age 4) exited the bus and entered the wrong part of the school building.	No

III. METHODOLOGY

01/13/2022	Special Investigation Intake 2022D1073004
01/18/2022	Special Investigation Initiated - On Site 10:30-11:15 AM Interviewed licensee designee Sarah Cooper

ALLEGATION: Child A (male, age 4) exited the bus and entered the wrong part of the school building.

INVESTIGATION: I conducted an onsite inspection at the child care facility on 1/18/2022. During this time, I spoke with licensee designee and program director Sarah Cooper.

Ms. Cooper explained that on 1/13/2022 the preschool students began riding the buses to school. Prior to the new year, the students attended preschool at a different building. The school is preschool through second grade and brand new to the district. Everyone is working on the new routine of the building. The plan was that the bus drivers would hold on to the preschool children until a child care staff member was there at the door of the bus. The child care staff member would then keep the preschool children together and walk them into the building to their classrooms. On this particular day, Child A rode the bus to school with a couple other preschool students. The bus driver recalled handing Child A off to a child care staff member, but the child care staff member did not recall having Child A in her line of sight. It is believed that Child A exited the bus and then walked with the older children into the school. He entered the building and then was found just past the first set of doors. A school staff member, Christina Sobraliski, recognized that he did not appear to know where to go so she asked him who his teacher was. Once he indicated that who is teacher was, she escorted him to the preschool wing. Ms. Cooper was informed of Child A making his way into the building with the older students so they could come up with a plan to ensure that all preschool students are supervised by child care staff members once they exit the buses.

I verified with Ms. Sobraliski that she located Child A in the entrance of the school building and escorted him to his classroom.

In talking with Ms. Cooper and the principal of the school, Katie Eisinger, it was found that there were seven adults total employed by the school district outside lined up watching the children exit the buses and enter the building. Either way Child A would have turned after exited the bus, school personnel would have had a line of sight on him.

Ms. Cooper had already implemented changes to the bus drop off routine to ensure that all preschool children are identified and placed directly with a child care staff member. The bus drivers have been instructed to turn on a green light if they have a preschool student on their bus. They are then instructed to wait till they have approached the opening of the gate to the school to allow children to exit the bus. There are two child care staff members gathering the preschool students off from the bus and walking them to another child care staff member who is located in a stationary spot on the pathway into the building. All child care staff members have walkie talkies to speak with one another to verify that all preschool students are in the care of child care staff members.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8125	Staff; volunteer; requirements.
	(1) All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	Child A was in the care of the school district and was not handed off by the bus driver to a child care staff member of the center. Child A was not in the care off the center at the time of the incident.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

I recommend no change in license status.




3/9/2022

Tarah Kline
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



03/09/2022

Candice Case-French
Area Manager

Date