



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

DR BEVERLY WALKER
GRIFFEA
DIRECTOR

7/30/2024

The Romine Group Inc
7877 Stead,
Utica, MI, 48317

License Number: DC820343583
Special Investigation Number: SI-00123745

Dear The Romine Group Inc,

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 interviewed child care staff members, Child A's Mother, Witness and the PD.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: June 4, 2024.

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](#).

Please review this report for accuracy and contact your consultant, Jacquelin Windham at (313) 938-6526 or windhamj@michigan.gov. In the event that Jacquelin Windham is not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the Child Care Licensing Bureau at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,



Jacquelin Windham, Licensing Consultant

Enclosure

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

THIS REPORT CONTAINS QUOTED PROFANITY AND/OR SEXUALLY EXPLICIT LANGUAGE.

Report Type: Special Investigation Report

Date of Report: 7/30/2024

Special Investigation Number	Complaint/Incident Receipt Date
SI-00123745	05/30/2024
Investigation Initiation Date	Report Due Date
5/31/2024	07/29/2024
License Number	Licensee Name(s)
DC820343583	The Romine Group Inc
Facility Name	Licensee Designee(s)
Trillium Academy	Steven G Paddock
Program Type	Central Administrator(s)
Center	
Capacity	Program Director(s) Name
48	
Facility Address	Mailing Address
15740 Racho, Taylor, MI, 48180	7877 Stead, Utica, MI, 48317
Facility Phone Number	Facility Email Address
7343748222	
Original License Issuance Date	License Status:
8/27/2013	Regular
License Effective Date:	License Expiration Date:
2/22/2024	2/21/2026

ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?	
On 05/22/2024, Witness observed Child A (4-year-old, female) being touched inappropriately by Child B (4-year-old, male) while outside playing at the facility. Staff did not witness the incident.		No

METHODOLOGY

Date	Activity
5/31/2024	Special Investigation Case Created SI-00123745
5/31/2024	Special Investigation Initiated via Phone Call

	Called Child A's Mother
5/31/2024	Contact – Document Received Received requested document from PD
5/31/2024	Contact – Phone Call Received Requested contact information from facility
6/3/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Interviewed Witness
6/3/2024	Contact – Email Sent I requested a copy of the video from the incident from the superintendent and the PD.
6/4/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Discussed incident with program director
6/4/2024	Inspection Completed On-Site Inspected area of incident.
6/13/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made I called CCSM 1 and CCSM 2
7/10/2024	Exit Conference Notified licensee designee of findings

ALLEGATION: On 05/22/2024, Witness observed Child A (4-year-old, female) being touched inappropriately by Child B (4-year-old, male) while outside playing at the facility. Staff did not witness the incident.

INVESTIGATION:

On 05/31/2024, I interviewed Child A’s Mother. Child A is doing well and continues to attend the facility, but she has requested she have no contact with Child B. The day of the incident, she was notified and immediately concerned. She requested to view any video and became even more alarmed and suggested the school address the situation but felt they minimized Child B’s behavior. She has not had any concerns regarding care or supervision in the past but is aware of Child B having hit Child A in the past. She believed it was just children playing at that time, but the video is “disturbing” and she questions if there’s appropriate supervision.

On 5/14/2024, an attempt was made to interview Child B’s Mother, but she did not return my call. On 06/03/2024, I interviewed Witness. She was sitting in her classroom and looked out the window. She observed several children running around playing, including Child A and Child B, with two staff present. One staff was close to the sidewalk while the other was with other children. According to Witness, Child B pushed Child A toward one of the support columns and appeared to be “humping or grinding her from behind.” Witness quickly ran outside and informed a child care staff member (CCSM) of the incident.

On 06/04/2024, I conducted an onsite inspection, viewed the requested video and inspected the play area. There are several concrete support columns, or pillars, in front of the school building. The pillars are wide and tall enough to conceal 3-4 small children. The video shows several children playing outside in the front of the building on the



pavement. A staff person can be seen walking away from the children down a walkway. Child A is standing by the pillar when Child B walks up behind her. He places his hands on her shoulders and guides her to the structure. Child B then begins pumping her from behind. There was no lifting of any clothing and the incident lasted less than a minute. There were two other children hiding with them, who were facing forward and saw nothing, and they all ran away immediately following the incident. 06/13/2024, I interviewed CCSM 1. The day of the incident, she and CCSM 2 were playing a game of Hide and Seek with the children. All of them were running around and trying to hide. There were 14 children and two CCSMs. CCSM 1 did not see or expect any inappropriate activity was taking place. Witness came outside and told her what she observed while looking out the window. They immediately went inside, checked Child A to ensure she was ok and talked with Child B about inappropriate touching. Both parents were informed of the incident. To date Child B is no longer attending the program. CCSM 2 states she did not see anything inappropriate and was engaging children when she observed Witness come outside and speak to CCSM 1.

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 evidence does not support a finding of inappropriate care and supervision. The day of the incident, CCSMs were engaging children and playing a game of Hide and Seek. Several children were hiding behind the pillar when Child A was inappropriately touched by Child B, the incident happened quickly, and the children continued to play.
CONCLUSION:	Violation Not Established

BUREAU RECOMMENDATION

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

Approved By:	
 Jacquelin Windham 07/30/2024 Consultant Date	 LaTanya Ellington 07/30/2024 Area Manager Date