

On Friday, June 1, 2018 6:15 PM, Kristine Fentress strachan <issymoo73@yahoo.com> wrote:

Please review what actually happens to parents and students in the Beaverton School District. The Parent/Student handbook is putting out lies and false claims. I have a complaint with the Teachers Standards and Practice Commission. I don't expect much from the school district, it is obvious union pensions mean more to them than children and parent collaboration.

Here are some quotes from that handbook:

"Parents and families are vital to the success of the school. They have the responsibility to reinforce the learning process at home, to encourage and model safe and respectful behaviors"

"Teachers should communicate with parents/guardians about school activities, positive accomplishments and any concerns they might have, and the ways in which parents and families can help their children succeed in school."

Parents have a right to "Receive information and prompt notification of inappropriate or disruptive behaviors by their children and any disciplinary action taken by administrators or other school staff."

"Successful disciplinary practices have the following characteristics: They provide the opportunity for parent/family and student participation."

Regarding LEVELS OF INTERVENTION AND DISCIPLINARY RESPONSE at every level parent contact is noted.

This statement by Don Grotting from the Handbook, "Parents are their child's first teacher. We recognize that parent involvement is vital to achieve maximum individual growth for all students. We strive to ensure the effective involvement of all parents by promoting activities that support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community. For all of our students to succeed we must maintain open lines of communication and collaboration. I can proudly say that we take extraordinary measures to maintain a safe and caring learning environment for our students. We hold high expectations for ourselves and seek continual improvement. Our students deserve the very best from us. It is up to all of us (schools, families and community partners) to work together and proactively seek solutions to the ever-changing challenges we face. Every year, a team of parents, teachers and administrators review and revise the Student and Family Handbook. Please take some time to become familiar with this important information. Our staff will be asking you to sign the Student and Family Handbook Review Form included in the first day packet. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation."

This is not our experience at Chehalem Elementary.

During Kindergarten at Fall conference I ask if Kathleen Hatch will call me if she has any problems with my son since she put notes in his backpack regarding him drawing on someone's paper and putting his butt in someone's face, she agrees.

I find my son out in the cold, sitting on the concrete with no coat on, he doesn't understand why he had to do this for 40 minutes that day. I ask Ms. Hatch what is happening. She says my son choked N and it's the 3rd time he had a choking incident. I tell her she is wrong. That I already talked to the staff member that saw the incident and they took him to the principal's office with the other 2 boys. That staff member told me they played a dinosaur game and when my son touched N's neck he said it was choking, but it wasn't. The other 2 incidents were N choking himself in the library and O playing Darth Vader that N also called choking. Ms. Hatch admits she did not talk to the staff member that saw the incident nor the principal. She only talked to N's mother who was a volunteer in her class. Ms. Hatch falsely records this in my son's school record.

I email the school and tell them my son said O pushed him down and stepped on him. I ask O myself and he admits it. I tell Ms. Hatch and email the principal Ms. Silliman. Ms. Hatch puts into my son's record that my son pushed and stepped on a kid. That kid's mother is also a volunteer in her classroom. This is a completely false report.

Ms. Silliman sends me an email telling me N's mom Lisa and O's mom Cara (also a volunteer in Hatch's class) are saying I did or said something inappropriate. I am never asked my side of the story. I am never given an explanation of what I supposedly did. Ms. Silliman emails me that she can ban me from school campus, tells me not to talk to any Chehalem students or parents. Ms. Silliman continues to advocate and sends many emails to me for Lisa, now an employee at the school. 2 parents tell me that while working at the school Lisa came up to them and said horrible things about me. I get an email from Ms. Silliman saying Lisa thinks I am slandering her and harassing her to other parents.

At 2nd grade's Fall Conference I asked Ms. Carleton to let me know any concerns about my son, she says nothing. At a later date Ms. Carleton tells me R gave my son a note saying "do you want to have sex with me or have a date". This is in my son's record. I then tell Ms. Carleton that R said to my son "sex is when a boy puts his penis in a girl's mouth" and M tells my son "you and R should have sex together". I tell Ms. Carleton there is obviously sex talk happening in her classroom and I am concerned. None of this is in my son's record. Ms. Carleton tells me she witnessed R slap my son in the face. This is not in his record.

On December 20th-email from Ms. Silliman stated sexually inappropriate behavior by my son and we need Kid Chat with psychologist, counselor and behavior specialist. I can't contact school until Winter break is over January 4th.

I review Parent/Student Handbook. Why no parent notification? My son tells us F showed him and A porn at school on the ipad. I send Ms. Carleton a SeeSaw message telling her to keep R away from my son. My son says R helped him write a note that says "fuck me now" and dares him to put in the boy's bathroom. He says Ms. Silliman doesn't believe R is involved and he says she thinks he is a liar. I ask to see the note and am denied.

January 2nd- Ms. Silliman responds with "thank you for the information we already followed up with F". Ms. Silliman tells me she never intended to tell me about the porn being accessed in class, even though she thinks my son is showing sexually inappropriate behavior. They can't remember if they asked the girls if they showed anyone else the porn in class on the ipads they share. Ms. Silliman agrees to hold off Kid Chat and have a principal/teacher/parent conference first. No explanation as to why Ms. Carleton never notified me. I ask for a timeline of events leading up to December 20th, what did my son do, when did he do it, what actions were taken, when did the principal talk to him etc...I am told nobody keeps notes about these things.

January 4th-Ms. Carleton lets R and M stand right next to my son in line. My son says they dared, threatened and pulled at his clothes to expose his penis. They tell on him. Ms. Silliman calls and tells me. I asked that the staff don't speak to my son alone after he tells me Ms. Silliman asked him about sex and made him uncomfortable. She tells me the school is "in loco parentis" and they are in place of parents. I ask for a definition of what power "in loco parentis" gives staff over parents. There is no mention of "in loco parentis" in the Parent/Student Handbook.

I call Nicole Will. She sounds concerned then does nothing, no answers.

I ask my son why would expose himself? He tells me F, A and R go behind the portable buildings at school. F and A pull down their pants and expose themselves to my son and R dances around. F and A ask my son to pull his pants down, he does. They touch his penis over his pants. I don't know if this only happened once or when it happened. This is not in his record. I call and tell Ms. Silliman. I send an email asking for help with the Kid Chat team due to my son being exposed to porn and genitals at school. She insist on parent/teacher conference. I insist on a new teacher and again ask for the Kid Chat team with our meeting with Nicole Will. I am told by them that "most parents don't want to know what happens to their kid at school" and that "parents tell us not to call them". I am told they can't put filters on the ipads per district policy. Ms. Silliman tells me a kid can bring a porn mag to school and show other kids anyway. I do not get a timeline of events, I am denied being able to check an ipad for what can be seen if sex is searched on safari.

I ask why the school doesn't consider how the girls showing my son porn at school and were exposing themselves to him at school would affect his behavior. Why don't they get the councilor or psychologist to talk to me? No answers given. Why did Ms. Carleton not say anything when I went to her about my concern for sex talk in her class? No answers. Ms. Carleton tells me she "doesn't want to have to tell parents everything that happens to their kids at school", that "if she was me she would just put her parenting hat on and figure it out on her own, she doesn't need a teacher to tell her what is happening to her kids at school and she can connect the dots herself". I leave the meeting. Ms. Silliman emails me that she stands behind the actions of Ms. Carleton and says she has done nothing wrong. Agrees to new teacher. Still won't set up Kid Chat or help with psychologist, counselor or behavior specialist.

I tell my son to never speak to anyone at school about anything other than academics. I get a phone call from the principal. She wants to talk to my son but he will only say "call my mom". I show up to the school and police officer Bewersdorff is there. They were going to interview him without telling me. I tell my son to just tell the truth. I start to tell the police officer some things and I am cut off by Ms. Silliman. She demands I leave and the meeting between us is over. I go home and call the police officer. He tells me I told him things the principal didn't and he took notes. We talk for 45 minutes. I call CPS myself and file my own report of the school knowing children were accessing porn and not telling parents. We talk for an hour. I got the DHS report now, but I am still waiting for the police report. I find out that R's father is a Beaverton Police officer. I hope this is not a conflict of interest. R got a victim protection plan against my son, we ask for one but are denied. I get my son's school records. Ms. Hatch, Ms. Carleton and Ms. Silliman have all either omitted incidents and/or made false claims. I finally get a timeline of events from Silliman however she gives me a timeline for events after Dec. 20th, not before like I repeatedly asked for.

I then go to Ginny Hansmann. On the phone she sounds concerned. We talk for an hour. I go to a meeting with her. She has no answers or information. Erica Hansen gives me a timeline of events. In the email Ms. Carleton says inappropriate behavior started before fall conference. Still doesn't explain why she said nothing to me for almost 3 months. I get Ms. Hansmann's report. It doesn't address my main concerns. She says everyone followed policy just fine. She agrees to go over my son's student record. She tells me any teacher or administrator can pick and choose who to discipline, how to punish, whether they want to notify parents at all and they can record in a student's record anything they want to or nothing at all.

I find out 2 different girls exposed themselves on the playground. Another girl exposed herself in the cafeteria, she gets star of the week that week. I ask Ms. Silliman why the teachers don't watch our children at recess? She emails me saying they had a staff meeting and will start walking around and watching the children. 2 days later I watch 2 boys fighting and the 4 teachers out there don't see because they are busy chatting with each other. I ask one of the teachers about the staff meeting where they were asked to walk around and watch the children, that students are exposing their genitals and looking at porn at school. He says there was no meeting and he didn't know about any of this.

I go to Steve Phillips. He tells me he didn't read anything at all. We talk for an hour. He agrees with me that the policy was not followed. I finally get the school district's definition of "in loco parentis", it does not specify what actions school staff can take without notifying parents. Mr. Phillips tells me this does not give the school district the right to not inform parents. He agrees to look into fixing my son's school record. He calls me later that night and asks if he can meet my son. I ask why and is he going to meet all of the children involved? He says never mind. He asks me if I just want to put an addendum into my son's school record. I say no, I want it corrected, not just a letter from me put into it. I email him a week later asking what is happening. He emails me that he only agreed to the addendum and is doing nothing. Ms. Hansmann tells me he agreed with her investigation, even though that is not what he told me. I email everyone asking for help answering questions and asking why no help is being offered.

I send Don Grotting my complaint. He doesn't respond in the school district's 10 day required response time. I ask why? No answer given. I have a meeting with him and David Williams the school district's lobbyist is there. Mr. Grotting tells me he didn't read my complaint, but was "briefed". He asks me what I want? I want my son's school record fixed or cleared and I would like either accountability and staff given

corrections in how to do their job or the school district needs to change the Parent/Student Handbook to say the school is "in loco parentis", that Ms. Hansmann said to me they don't have to tell parents anything, they can discipline and punish how they see fit or not at all and they can put whatever they want into a student's school record or not at all. I get Mr. Grotting's reply, which he says he agrees with Ms. Hansmann's investigation. Nobody did anything wrong. I go to the School Board and have a hearing. Very little questions are asked of me. They agree with Ms. Hansmann's report which says everyone did a great job.

Leslie Rodgers emails me that they can exclude a parent from any and all involvement with their own child. That the school district does not report anything that happened to student in their records, only what they did to someone else. I ask why the girls touching my son's penis over his pants is not in his record. The email says that is just something my son told me at home, so it doesn't matter to the school, but he actually told it to the police officer and whoever is the anonymous caller from the school to DHS also reported it. The answers are contradicting and false.

If the school district wants parental rights they should put that in the handbook. Can you put it in writing that a teacher can falsely accuse, physically punish, not notify the parent and not record or falsely record incidents into a student's school record? How about putting in writing that a principal can make unsubstantiated claims and accusations against a parent, threaten to ban from school campus all without any proof or explanation? Can you put it in writing that a teacher can claim a student is displaying non-normative sexually inappropriate behavior even though the parent has come to them with concerns over how other students are talking sexually to their child and when the teacher knows children in her class looked at porn under her watch?

If so you should remove this from the school district's website: "Beaverton schools are great places for students to learn. Parents and educators work together to provide students with challenging educational opportunities in safe, effective learning environments. Together, students, parents and District staff strive for continual improvement and success. Parents are their child's first teacher. We recognize that parent involvement is vital to achieve maximum individual growth for all students. We strive to ensure the effective involvement of all parents by promoting activities that support a partnership among the school, parents, and the community."

The school board agrees with how the school district handled my complaint. The Oregon Department of Education says they can do nothing about it. There literally is no accountability or oversight within the Beaverton School District.

Kristine Strachan