Tony Evers, PhD, State Superintendent



December 17, 2013

Taron Monroe LifeSkills Academy 3434 North 38th Street Milwaukee, WI 53216

Dear Ms. Monroe:

On Friday, December 6, I spoke with you regarding information that had been brought to the department's attention concerning emails that were sent to the department in the name of Dominic Robinson, the current choice administrator of LifeSkills Academy. I shared with you that Mr. Robinson denies sending any of the correspondence or having knowledge of the correspondence being sent. During our conversation, I informed you that all usernames and passwords issued to staff of LifeSkills Academy would be locked until the department determined how it would proceed. During our conversation, you indicated that you sent the emails on behalf of Mr. Robinson and that Mr. Robinson was aware of your activity. At the conclusion of our conversation, I explained that I would present this information to my supervisor and the department would decide how to proceed. I noted that I would follow up with you regarding the department's decision during the next week.

On Tuesday, December 10, you called me for information on the department's decision concerning LifeSkills Academy. During our conversation, I indicated that you would be receiving written correspondence regarding the department's decision in the next few days.

On Wednesday December 11, I received a call from several staff members of LifeSkills Academy, including the administrator, Dominic Robinson, who shared that you announced to staff that, effective Friday December 13, the school would be closing due to "loss of funding from the DPI." Staff shared that you also provided a letter that was to be sent to parents regarding the school's closure. I requested that Mr. Robinson fax a copy of the letter and explained to him and the other staff on the call that the department had not issued any formal letter, order or statement that the school's funds would be withheld, nor did I verbally tell you that the department would be taking such action. After speaking with the staff members, I called and spoke with you regarding the school's closure. I asked where you received information that the department would be withholding funds from the school. You indicated that you "assumed" that funds would be withheld due to the nature of our previous conversations and also due to the fact that all staff had been locked out of the On-line Application System. I explained that the department would not be issuing an order to withhold funds or terminate the school due to the issues previously discussed, but before allowing staff at LifeSkills to access the online system, the department would require certain measures be taken on the part of the school. I explained that these measures would include each administrator and designee at the school acquiring and providing the department with their own unique email address for future correspondence with the department. I explained that the decision to close or keep the school open is wholly the school's,

however, the department would like appropriate notification if the school will be closed. You shared that you misunderstood the situation and would be speaking with the school's governing board members on whether the school will remain open or will close. You also inquired about the steps needed to be taken to change the school's choice administrator should the school decide to stay open. I explained the process and training requirements for appointing a new choice administrator and asked that you notify me, by Friday, December 13, of the board's decision regarding the school.

To date, I have not received any notification or correspondence from you regarding LifeSkills Academy. However, I was notified by Mr. Robinson on December 12 that staff was told by you and Mr. Rodney Monroe that the school would be closing. Mr. Robinson shared that no classes were being held on December 12 and that staff had taken measures to enroll the students in other schools. We have also been notified by Father Carl Deidrichs, the school's landlord, that the premises have been vacated.

This correspondence is being sent to confirm that LifeSkills Academy is closed. Please respond, in writing, to confirm the status of LifeSkills Academy. The department requests that this confirmation be sent as soon as possible.

Thank you,

tayo M. Holilay

Latoya M. Holiday, School Administration Consultant Private School Choice Programs

cc: Tricia Collins, Director Molly Koranda, Consultant Dominic Robinson, Choice Administrator, LifeSkills Academy



Milwaukee voucher school LifeSkills Academy closes 'in the dead of the night'

Only 1 student attending the school scored proficient in reading in 2012-'13

By <u>Erin Richards</u> of the Journal Sentinel Jan. 14, 2014

A small private school participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program abruptly closed in the middle of December, but not before collecting more than \$200,000 from taxpayers this academic year to educate students who now attend other schools, state officials confirmed.

LifeSkills Academy, a K-8 school that had dwindled to 66 students, appears to have closed around Dec. 12, according to a letter sent to the school from the Department of Public Instruction.

All Saints Catholic Church owns the building that LifeSkills rented at 3434 N. 38th St.

"They moved out, as people say, in the dead of the night," Father Carl Diederichs of All Saints said.

The school's leader listed in DPI documents is Taron Monroe. Diederichs said she appeared to work with her husband, Rodney Monroe.

LifeSkills received \$202,278 in taxpayer-funded voucher payments from the state this year, and more than \$633,248 in voucher payments in 2012-'13, according to the DPI.

The school joined the voucher program in 2008-'09 and collected more than S2 million in total public payments to educate children.

No students attending LifeSkills were proficient in reading or math in 2012-'13, except for a single fourth-grade student, according to the most recent state achievement test score results.

DPI began corresponding with the school in early December after department officials received a chain of emails sent in the name of LifeSkills administrator Dominic Robinson, who denied sending the messages or having knowledge of the correspondence, according to a letter.

Taron Monroe told DPI officials she sent the messages on behalf of Robinson and that Robinson was aware of the activity.

While a DPI official tried to figure out how to handle that situation, Monroe told the school it would be closing, according to the letter.

DPI spokesman John Johnson said this month the department has sought — but not received — final confirmation from Monroe that the school is closed, but has received notice from enough other parties to cease sending payments.

The annual per-pupil payment for voucher schools is \$6,442, but the DPI pays that in four installments over the course of the year.

LifeSkills received its first two payments this school year, based on its fall enrollment count, but will not receive any more payments.

The DPI is not able to recoup public money spent by voucher schools that do not finish the year.

Find this article at:

http://www.jsonline.com/news/education/milwaukee-voucher-school-closes-in-the-dead-of-the-night-b99183859z1-240125681.html

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.



State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



2013 ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 23

January 21, 2014 – Introduced by Representatives Goyke, ZAMARRIPA, BARCA, PASCH, POPE, SINICKI, WRIGHT, C. TAYLOR, CLARK, HESSELBEIN and KOLSTE. Referred to Committee on Assembly Organization.

1 **Relating to:** the closing of LifeSkills Academy in the city of Milwaukee.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

On or about December 12, 2013, the LifeSkills Academy in the city of Milwaukee ceased operations. LifeSkills Academy was a private school participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program. Newspaper reports indicated that the owners of the school relocated to Florida and have started another private school in Daytona Beach. This resolution does the following:

1. Requests that the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) immediately contact the relevant state agency in the state of Florida that regulates the operation of private schools in that state to inform the agency of the closing of LifeSkills Academy.

2. Directs the Committee on Assembly Organization to contact the appropriate Wisconsin state agencies to request that the agencies immediately commence proceedings to recover any state funds that may be collectible from LifeSkills Academy or its agents.

3. Requests that DPI provide the assembly with all information relating to whether any other private schools that participate in a parental choice program in this state have abruptly closed and relocated to another state after receiving state funding.

2 **Resolved by the assembly, That** in light of the abrupt closing of the LifeSkills

3 Academy in the city of Milwaukee, a private school participating in the Milwaukee

Parental Choice Program, on or about December 12, 2013, which enrolled 66 students and which had received more than \$2.3 million in state funding for the operation of its programs, and the relocation of the owners of the LifeSkills Academy to the state of Florida, where they have started a new private school in Daytona Beach, all of the following shall occur:

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(1) The department of public instruction is requested to immediately contact the relevant state agency in the state of Florida that regulates the operation of private schools in that state to inform the agency of the closing of LifeSkills Academy.

9 (2) The committee on assembly organization shall contact the appropriate 10 Wisconsin state agencies to request that the agencies immediately commence 11 proceedings to recover any state funds that may be collectible from LifeSkills 12 Academy or its agents.

(3) The department of public instruction is requested to provide the assembly
with all information relating to whether any other private schools that participate
in a parental choice program in this state have abruptly closed and relocated to
another state after receiving state funding.

17

(END)



Tony Evers, PhD, State Superintendent

Taron Monroe, School Administrator LifeSkills Academy 3434 North 38th Street Milwaukee, WI 53216 Agency Code: 40-1572

June 28, 2011

Dear Ms. Monroe:

This letter is in response to a written complaint we received at the Department of Public Instruction – School Nutrition Team (DPI-SNT) regarding the administration of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the meals served at LifeSkills Academy.

Several allegations have been brought to our attention, which include the following:

- · Falsification of applications (parent signatures and dates) by both you and Pastor Rodney,
- Food being served as part of the National School Lunch Program is coming from pantries and is expired,
- The breakfasts and lunches served do not meet the component requirements to be considered a reimbursable meal (kids have been given Ramen noodles with hot sauce and a cup of water for lunch),
- Whole milk is being "cut" with water.
- Accurate points of service (POS) are not being kept for breakfast or lunch (all students are counted if they are present for meals or not),
- Serving KoolAid in place of juice,
- Serving moldy apple juice, and
- Repeated issues with bats.

The above concerns are unacceptable and, if validated, are out of compliance with the federal and state regulations that govern the National School Lunch Program, to which you agree to when you accept the terms of the Agreement/Policy Statement (when completing your online contract), specifically:

- 7 CFR 210.13(a) Health standards: The school food authority shall ensure that food storage, preparation and service is in accordance with the sanitation and health standards established under State and local law and regulations.
- 7 CFR 210.13(c) Storage: The school food authority shall ensure that the necessary facilities for storage, preparation and service of food are maintained. Facilities for the handling, storage, and distribution of purchased and donated (commodity) foods shall be such as to properly safeguard against theft, spoilage and other loss.
- Wisconsin Food Code § 3-201.11-3-201.17: food shall be obtained from an approved food source
 - <u>Food Banks</u>: According to the Department of Health Services' analysis of the Wisconsin Food Code, food banks or other agencies that receive salvaged food

are not considered an approved food source. Thus, any items obtained from a food bank or licensed warehouse where salvaged items are stored <u>may not be</u> <u>served to students</u> as part of reimbursable meals including lunches, breakfasts, and afterschool snacks.

In addition to the concerns about food safety, when you agreed to the terms of the Agreement/Policy Statement, you agreed to serve meals that meet the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) meal patterns requirements as outlined on pages 6-13 of the Agreement/Policy, depending on the menu planning and Offer vs Serve options you have chosen.

Falsification of application documents is grounds for fiscal action and we will take back federal funds, if applications are falsified. Applications need to be filled out by households on a yearly basis unless students are deemed eligible for free meals through the direct certification process.

Finally, an accurate daily POS is required for each meal and/or snack served. 7 CFR 201.7 outlines the regulations related to the point of service. An inaccurate POS or lack thereof may also lead to fiscal action, including taking back federal funds.

In response to this complaint, you will need to provide me with the following items by November 1, 2011:

- Menus from August, September, and October 2011
- · Food invoices that correspond to your menus for August, September, and October
- A written description of your application approval process
- · Your food safety plan that discusses all food safety related issues mentioned above
- POS records from August, September, and October 2011

Given these complaints, you may be subject to an unannounced Management Review by the DPI-School Nutrition Team during the 2011-2012 school year.

You will remain in claims withholding until the requested documentation is provided and is approved as satisfactory. While you are in claims withholding, please fax paper claims to Jacque Jordee at (608) 267-9207 in accordance with the claiming deadlines. You can download and print a copy of the claim form at <u>http://dpi.wi.gov/forms/doc/pod1409.doc</u>. Appeals procedures are enclosed, should you wish to appeal our decision to put Lifeskills Academy in claims withholding.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at jessica.sharkus@dpi.wi.gov or 608-266-2416.

Sincerely.

Yessica Sharkus, RD, CD Assistant Director-School Nutrition Team

Cc: Helene Pesche, Nutrition Program Consultant Jacque Jordee, Accountant Agency File

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Tony Evers, PhD, State Superintendent

March 1, 2012

Taron Monroe School Administrator LifeSkills Academy 3434 N. 38th Street Milwaukee, WI 53216

Agency Code: # 40-1572

Dear Ms. Monroe:

This letter is to formally notify you that LifeSkills Academy will remain in withholding as a result of insufficient corrective action response for review findings based on the on-site review of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP) on January 4-5, 2012 by Katherine Pike and me. After discussion with our supervisor, Jessica Sharkus, it has also been decided that due to the concerns outlined in red in the attachment, claims for reimbursement will not be paid for September 2011 through February 2012.

Pursuant to 7 CFR § 210.9 (federal regulations), and according to the permanent agreement/policy statement (enclosed) that was agreed upon electronically through the submission of the online contract for the School Nutrition Programs, LifeSkills Academy agreed to maintain accurate and complete production records and to submit claims based on an accurate meal counting and claiming system. A copy of the Permanent Agreement/Policy Statement, with highlighted areas of concern relevant to this review was included with the letter we sent January 9, 2012.

On February 6, 2012 we mailed you the Administrative Evaluation Report, outlining our findings during the on-site review and emphasized the various areas of corrective action needed to show compliance. During the exit conference on January 5, 2012, Katherine Pike and I thoroughly reviewed and left you with a preliminary list of corrective action needed on the CRE Corrective Action Summary, which was signed by yourself.

As noted on the Administrative Evaluation Report mailed and e-mailed to you, the following corrective action documentation should have been submitted to Katherine and me for review:

- One month (at a minimum) of menus indicating reimbursable meals were served;
- Completed production records for January 5-February 10, 2012 reflecting what was actually prepared and served; and
- A copy of daily meal counts and corresponding monthly reimbursement claim
- Written responses to all review findings as indicated in the report

We received and reviewed the materials submitted to us on February 16, 2012 from LifeSkills Academy. After evaluating the documentation sent as corrective action, we have determined that LifeSkills Academy is noncompliant with federal regulations due to: inaccurate claiming based

on continued benefit issuance errors, incomplete production records, non-reimbursable meals served for NSLP and SBP shown on monthly menus and production records, and falsifying documentation of actual meals served. Lifeskills Academy will also remain in withholding until all requested corrective action is completed, and one month of complete and correct documentation is sent verifying accurate counting and claiming, and service of reimbursable meals that meet the meal pattern requirements. We will request that you submit another month of menus, production records, and daily meal counts with the corresponding monthly claim for NSLP and SBP, along with additional responses to findings as indicated in the report and in the attachment. If this documentation does not support compliance with the Permanent Agreement/Policy Statement, we will not reimburse for that month's payment, and will request three months of documentation be sent to us for review.

You may request an appeal of this denial of payments in accordance with the enclosed appeal procedures.

DPI staff provides training and technical assistance through a variety of methods, including mailings, online trainings, and group classes. Be sure to check our website (<u>http://dpi.wi.gov/fns/index.html</u>) frequently to stay informed of updates and new training opportunities. We will continue to be available for assistance as you work to demonstrate program compliance.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact either Katherine or me by telephone or email as noted below:

- Katherine Pike 608-266-2410 <u>katherine.pike@dpi.wi.gov</u>
- Linda Krueger 6098-267-9128 linda.krueger@dpi.wi.gov

Sincerely,

Linda Krueger, SNS Nutrition Program Consultant School Nutrition Team

allengike

Katherine Pike, RD, CD Nutrition Program Consultant School Nutrition Team

Enclosures

 Cc: Jessica Sharkus, Assistant Director, School Nutrition Team Jacque Jordee, Grant Accountant Tricia Collins, Consultant Kathryn Guralski, School Finance Auditor Latoya Holiday, Consultant Molly Koranda, Consultant Andrea Kratz, School Finance Auditor Loretta Langlois, Financial Specialist Bob Soldner, Director, School Management Services Team

	LifeSkills Academy
	To: D.P.I. 608- Mot-105h From: W.S. 2./ Taron Monroe
	atta: Winda Krulfur Phone: 414-444-7895 Email: lifeskillsacademy@yahoo.com
	Date: 391000 Pages: 1910
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「「「「「「」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」」	3434 N. 38th Street Milwaukee. WI 53216 Phone: 414-444-7895 Email: lifeskillsacademy@yahoo.com

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To:DPI/Linda K., Jessica, S, June Paul, et al.,From:LSA/Taron MonroeDate:March 5, 2012Reference:Ltr Dtd: March 1, 2012

We are writing in response to the Claims Withholding Status of our school LifeSkills Academy.

We totally disagree with your decision to deny us an opportunity to participate in the Federal school lunch program. We have honestly provided lunches to the students we service as they desired to eat and as they were in attendance.

Although you may feel some things needed to be tightened such as incomplete production records, we feel we have completed them to the best of our ability in good faith in accordance with the web cast training. We additionally know we have conducted a great job within the one month time frame.

Perhaps as shown on the menus, it appeared to have had some non-reimbursable meals, only due to forgetting to type in a particular item. However, everyday a meal was served; all 5 components were offered whereas the students had the opportunity to choose 3 of such. In addition, there were days that the menu was typed correctly. That should have accounted for something.

We are totally appalled for the allegation that we falsified any documentation. We are an Honest Christian School – and have counted only when students were served as required. Perhaps we forgot to change the lunch menu data for the day indicated, however, this in no way leads a sane person to interpret we "blatantly lied" about anything. We noticed Linda's telephone number was wrong on the letter and this is the second time as it was wrong on the last letter. Is this to say she blatantly falsified her number so no one could call her directly? Or is it possible for people to make mistakes, knowing that one did not mean any harm?

There was not another surprise visit given to even inspect the procedures for the day. How could anyone even try to come to a degrading comment to try and make such a statement to try to denounce our character as a school? For that you should be ashamed.

As far as the additional documentation you requested in the latter letter, you had already reviewed the lunch applications in question and they were fixed while you where in your visit with our school. You also reviewed and received copies of the CN labels while you were here. We are proud to say we have a zero violation report from the Health Department. We completed webcast trainings and submitted logs. From such, the list goes on. Again, this only shows we have made Great progress in attempting to meet your demands for participation in the Federal Lunch Program. For this we should have received some accolades.

Received Time Mar. 9. 2012 11:56AM No. 1232

At any rate, as of date, we will withdraw our application to participate in the Federal School Lunch program for the 2011-12 school year. The opportunity to receive some of the month's funding should have been granted rather than the entire month taken. We have provided healthy meals that have also in many cases involved more than the required amount to the children in need of such without the additional assistance of the lunch program. We will continue to provide healthy and filling meals as necessary with help from other resources.

We will not submit additional documentation as it appears to be a ploy to discourage our school from supplying much needed meals to the families we service whom are below the federal guidelines of poverty. We will without the much needed lunch funding continue to make sure the students we service will have a hot meal at school. We know in many instances this is truly their main meal for the day. Thus we will ensure we do our part so that they may have it available.

We want all to know we are truly one of few Christian Schools who wholeheartedly answer to God Almighty, knowing that He sees all and knows all. We will not jeopardize our relationship or ministry with Him. As a result, we will continue to the best of our ability provide fair and consistent services to the poverty stricken, youth-at-risk children we service and their families by providing a great source of educational resources within the community. Those in charge of making such an unconstructive judgment as it relates to our school, hopefully, God will have mercy upon you.

Humply Submitted

Taron Monroe

School Administrator LifeSkills Academy

Cc:

Jessica Sharkus, Assistant Director, School Nutrition Team Jacque Jordee, Grant Accountant Tricia Collins, Consultant Kathryn Guralski, School Finance Auditor Latoya Holiday, Consultant Molly Koranda, Consultant Andrea Kratz, School Finance Auditor Loretta Langlois, Financial Specialist Bob Soldner, Director, School Management Services Team

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December 17, 2013

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Thank you,

staye M. Holilay

Latoya M. Holiday, School Administration Consultant Private School Choice Programs

cc: Tricia Collins, Director Molly Koranda, Consultant Dominic Robinson, Choice Administrator, LifeSkills Academy

Leaders of closed Milwaukee voucher school are now in Florida

By Erin Richards of the Journal Sentinel Jan. 15, 2014

A husband and wife running a private Milwaukee voucher school that abruptly closed last month - after accepting a total of more than \$2.3 million in taxpayer money - now live in a gated community in Florida by the beach, records show.

Records show Taron and Rodney Monroe started a new private Christian school this year in Daytona Beach. While the school in Milwaukee was running on fumes, they were telling Florida friends they had experience getting government grants for religious schools.

Now the Monroes, who lost their five-bedroom house in West Bend to foreclosure, have disappeared.

"I haven't seen them since before Thanksgiving," said Bill Vigue, a pastor with a Christian radio show who worshipped with the Monroes in Florida.

The K-8 voucher school in Milwaukee, LifeSkills Academy, 3434 N. 38th St., served only about 400 low-income students since joining the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program in 2008-'09. Its closing around Dec. 13 forced 66 students to find other schools with little notice.

The school's rise and fall illustrate how unstable operations are still a feature of Milwaukee's landmark voucher program as it heads into its 24th year.

While running LifeSkills Academy in Milwaukee, records show, the Monroes were living in a five-bedroom, 3.5-bath house in West Bend.

The home's ownership was shifted in 2011 from Lifestyle Ministries — the religious group affiliated with the Monroes — to Taron Monroe's name, according to real estate records.

A foreclosure action was filed against the property in early 2013, and the house was sold in a sheriff's sale in November, records show.

The house is now listed on the market for about \$284,000.

For the past year, the Monroes have been living in a house with a private pool in Palm Coast, Fla., that sold in 2009 for \$409,000, according to records.

A representative with Southern States Management Group, which manages the Palm Coast homeowners' association, confirmed Wednesday that the Monroes had been living in the gated community since about February.

Calls to all of the phone numbers listed for Taron Monroe and the family's enterprises in Milwaukee yielded disconnected numbers. Calls to the second LifeSkills Academy school in Florida were not returned.

In one online document, Vigue was listed as a board member of the school. But when contacted Wednesday by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, he said he had never agreed to be on any board of the school.

Still, he defended the Monroes as honest people committed to teaching.

"They're not charlatans or con people who were trying to get government money to live high on the hog," Vigue said. "They were doing their best to provide a good education for children."

Vigue said he met the Monroes when they and their three children came to Florida about a year ago to take care of one of their moms, he said.

"I knew he had a school in Wisconsin and that he wanted to start a school here," Vigue said. "They said they had experience getting government grants for Christian schools."

He said the Monroes seemed to take turns traveling to Wisconsin to check on the Milwaukee school. Wisconsin records show the administration of the school switched from Taron Monroe to Dominic Robinson in October.

Vigue said Rodney Monroe was "a real good preacher," but that he and his wife were struggling with the new Florida school, which had only eight or nine children in 2013-'14, including some or all of the Monroes' own children.

LifeSkills Academy in Milwaukee also had troubles.

Save for one child who met the state benchmark one year in reading, no students could read or do math proficiently in 2011 or 2012, according to the most recent state test score results.

Before closing, the school collected more than \$200,000 in taxpayer money this academic year. The school will not get its final two voucher payments from the state, according to the state.

In Milwaukee's voucher program, qualifying private schools receive an annual taxpayer-financed subsidy of up to \$6,442 per child. Nearly 26,000 children in Milwaukee participate in the program.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction records show LifeSkills was nearly booted from the voucher program in 2010-'11 because the Monroes were listed as school administrators but didn't have bachelor's degrees — a program requirement that went into effect in 2010.

Once Taron Monroe hustled to get hers and the state was convinced that Rodney Monroe was no longer in a teaching or administrative position, the taxpayer money continued flowing, according to the DPI.

John Johnson, DPI spokesman, said Wednesday that the department's authority over voucher schools, which are all private and predominantly religious, is

limited.

There's nothing in state law that allows the DPI to take action against a private school because of low academic performance or because of a school leader's personal finances, Johnson said.

Voucher school advocates say that freedom from the mandates placed on public schools means the private schools can potentially offer low- and middleincome children a better education.

But Jim Bender, head of the voucher advocacy group School Choice Wisconsin, said people like the Monroes shouldn't be running schools.

He reiterated that his group is in favor of a forthcoming bill that should propose stronger limits on who can open a voucher school, and that Milwaukee needs more high-quality voucher schools and fewer programs like LifeSkills.

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Twitter twitter.com/emrichards

Find this article at:

http://www.jsonline.com/news/education/leaders-of-closed-milwaukee-voucher-school-are-now-in-florida-b99185323z1-240384541.html

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.



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Krueger, Linda DPI

From: Pesche, Helene DPI Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 3:39 PM To: Krueger, Linda DPI; Pike, Katherine M. DPI Cc: Pesche, Helene DPI Subject: LifeSkills Academy, Milwaukee, 3434 N. 38th-Fraudulent Business

From: Kwawer, Rek E.T. DPI Sent: Friday, June 10, 2011 9:53 AM To: Paul, June C. DPI; Sharkus, Jessica A. DPI; Pesche, Helene DPI Subject: RE: LifeSkills Academy, Milwaukee, 3434 N. 38th-Fraudulent Business

I have put Lifeskills in withholding, per Jessica.

From: Sharkus, Jessica A. DPI Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2011 12:03 PM To: Paul, June C. DPI; Pesche, Helene DPI; Kwawer, Rek E.T. DPI Subject: FW: LifeSkills Academy, Milwaukee, 3434 N. 38th-Fraudulent Business Importance: Hlah

I believe we need to place this school in withholding until we get to the bottom of this.....

From: Collins, Tricia DPI Sent: Monday, June 06, 2011 11:10 AM To: Sharkus, Jessica A. DPI Cc: Paul, June C. DPI; Guralski, Kathryn J. DPI Subject: FW: LifeSkills Academy, Milwaukee, 3434 N. 38th-Fraudulent Business

Jessica, Below are some issues related to food. I am not sure if this school participates in the food programs. The school did not receive the May MPCP payments due to compliance issues. Thanks, Tricia

From

100

Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2011 3:24 PM To: Collins, Tricia DPI Subject: LifeSkills Academy, Milwaukee, 3434 N. 38th-Fraudulent Business

Hello Ms. Collins,

My name is a fand I am writing to you in hopes of justifying some wrongs that were done to me and probably others under the name of L.S.A. a MPCP school. The fact is that I discovered in February that the owners Pastors Rodney and Taron Monroe had done some things under my name which I had no idea about. They probably are still doing things under my name which I don't know about. I have been made to stav away from the office since the middle of September when I discovered a secretary and Pastor Taron copying and pasting some information (a signature and a later date) onto an old app. of a parent. I think it might have been seen some other info/ application. But since that time I have seen some other things which I questioned, and in return they became really upset with me and kept me at arms length. I've mostly worked the third/fourth grade class room. The reason I stayed is because I didn't have another job lined up. So, in April the Pastors called a meeting with three teachers, myself, (_____. They told the three of us that due to financial situations and because they had to pay the state back due to not having teachers with proper credentials for a whole year (which they could have had if they would have paid better and stopped firing people for nothing) they were going to run out of funding by April 30th,

after Easter break. I asked them If that meant I would be working for free in May because we are a month behind on the paycheck. They told me to apply for unemployment and "volunteer" and "have their back". Well, I did apply for unemployment, but after only receiving two checks I'm not getting anymore because they told unemployment I quit. They expected me to come back and continue working for them for free. You see, they have gotten all these felons from the YWCA program called the Hope Project to work in the building because the state pays them, and L.S.A doesn't have to pay. They also want unemployment to pay everybody and hopefully we'll continue to work while they don't pay. I'm writing to tell you that I have never worked for such shady crooks in my life. I can't believe how greedy they are, and they believe they will continue to get away with it because in the words of Pastor Monroe "Can't nothing touch him but God." Oh, I forgot to mention, that while they were encouraging us to apply for unemployment, they were moving these felons into the classrooms. Not only do these people not have teaching degrees, they have long rap sheets, some of which are violent. These are the people they put in front of those kids. When I discovered what was going on because I C-Capped them, I was unformally reprimanded by being given the silent treatment, extra work and left out of things. I'm writing to you Ms. Collins, because L.S.A. probably shouldn't be in operation. Reasons why:

-They only give the children some basic food, a lot of which are expired and from the pantries after they have kept them hidden in their homes before they decide to bring it to the children.' -They keep all the lights off in the building and office because they can't afford "no three thousand dollar bill".

-They do not serve the DPH or DPI standards of 3 of 4 for breakfast or 4 of 5 for lunch. I've seen them give the children Ramen noodles with hot sauce and a cup of water for lunch. That kind of thing is very normal for them. Just ask the kids. They also cut whole milk with water. They pour one half of it in a jug, then fill the gallon and jug up with water. Shake it up and serve.

-They don't have a single qualified teacher except the lady they just hired back whose name is Ms. Conrad who they vowed they wouldn't hire back because "she don't understand the black kids".

-Felons are teaching the classes and are all over the building

-They are not keeping accurate attendance, breakfast/lunch counts, attendance, student grades- it's all made up

-They take your attendance books after they tell you to do it in pencil and erase/ doctor information -They have forged information for the third Friday counts. I have had kids absent before, on and after third Friday. They made those kids look like they were there.

-There's a family, **Exception of** is the girl who was in my class. That family did not come until maybe the middle of January, after the third Friday count. They struck a deal with mom because the kids had been out of school since before Christmas, a deal to say the kids were enrolled in December. I remember hearing mom say that that would help her out.

-They have asked me to get my brothers's UWM degree for some reason so that they could forge something. When I told them that I couldn't do that, they asked another woman to get somebody's UWM degree. Tykesha Owens somehow got somebody's degree and Taron tried to copy, paste, forge something. They got caught, but Tykesha told me that they keep telling her to call DPI and say that she's sorry for forging it, but in fact, it's the owners who forged the document.

I know you are a busy woman. I thank you for reading my e-mail. I really, really hope you shut them down. They are criminals operating under God's name and doing too many people wrong. I think the least they could do if they "laid me off" is own up to it and let me take care of my three children until conget another job.

LifeSkills Academy

WSAS: WKCE and WAA-SwD Combined Fall 2012

Proficiency Calculated Using # Enrolled (Parent Opt-Out Included in % Not Tested)

*Reading

Grade	# Enrolled	# Parent Opt-Out	# Required to Test	% Not Tested	% Minimal Perf.	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
3	15	0	15	0%	80%	20%	0%	0%
4	10	0	10	0%	80%	10%	10%	0%
5	7	0	7	0%	86%	14%	0%	0%
6	7	0	7	0%	57%	43%	0%	0%
7	7	0	7	0%	57%	43%	0%	0%
8	10	0	10	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%
Total	56	0	56	0%	70%	29%	2%	0%

*Mathematics

Grade	# Enrolled	# Parent Opt-Out	# Required to Test	% Not Tested	% Minimal Perf.	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
3	15	0	15	0%	80%	20%	0%	0%
4	10	0	10	0%	70%	30%	0%	0%
5	7	0	7	0%	57%	43%	0%	0%
6	7	0	7	0%	57%	43%	0%	0%
7	7	0	7	0%	86%	14%	0%	0%
8	10	0	10	0%	60%	40%	0%	0%
Total	56	0	56	0%	70%	30%	0%	0%

*Language Arts

Grade	# Enrolled	# Parent Opt-Out	# Required to Test	% Not Tested	% Minimal Perf.	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
4	10	0	10	10%	20%	50%	0%	20%
8	10	0	10	10%	30%	40%	20%	0%
Total	20	0	20	10%	25%	45%	10%	10%

*Science

Grade	# Enrolled	# Parent Opt-Out	# Required to Test	% Not Tested	% Minimal Perf.	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
4	10	0	10	10%	50%	20%	20%	0%
8	10	0	10	0%	20%	30%	50%	0%
Total	20	0	20	5%	35%	25%	35%	0%

***Social Studies**

Grade	# Enrolled	# Parent Opt-Out	# Required to Test	% Not Tested	% Minimal Perf.	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
4	10	0	10	10%	30%	10%	30%	20%
8	10	0	10	10%	0%	50%	40%	0%
Total	20	0	20	10%	15%	30%	35%	10%

* Data are suppressed when the number of students per grade is below six.