



Oregon City School District No. 62

Learning to be our Best

PO Box 2110 (1417 12th St.), Oregon City, Oregon 97045-5010

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TO: Patricia Stoneroad, Complaint and Appeals Specialist, ODE.
FROM: John Ogden, Director of Human Resources, Oregon City S.D.
RE: Division 22 complaint from OCSD patron Julie Widmer
DATE: 7/9/2020

Dear Patricia Stoneroad,

The District received a formal written complaint on June 2, 2020 from the department of education. The complaint initiated an inquiry into division 22 standards. ODE specifically requested information on how the coach was trained and documentation about responding to head injuries and concussions of athletes.

Alleged Concerns:

1. Oregon City Equestrian Coach does not have the knowledge and training that is mandated by OAR 581-022-2215 (Safety of School Sports – Concussions).

NOTE: Other concerns were mentioned in the complaint dated 5/22/2020. ODE stated they do not have authority to take complaints in the other areas listed.

Statement of fact:

Oregon City School District takes the safety and well being of all student athletes very seriously. The district has taken staff time, energy, expertise, and professional experience into account while conducting this inquiry. The district listened to the concerns from Julie Widmer and followed process and procedures in conducting a fair and thorough investigation, including an appeal to the school board.

Angie Wacker, the Oregon City High School OHSET coach has been trained in concussion protocols as noted by the certificates shared with ODE.

OCSD has also received a complaint from TSPC regarding these concerns.

Summary of findings

The process that the school district facilitated is represented by the response of the school board vice chair in December 2019.

1. *The Oregon City School Board upheld the findings of Athletic Director, Andy Jones. (see google drive)*
The board acted independently after hearing the appeal, which included all the information listed above. This involved concerns about injuries – including concussions.

With high expectations for all, we engage all students in meaningful learning activities that prepare them for a successful life.

2. *Students mentioned by name in the complaint.*

Issues were addressed, reported, and documented by the coach:

██████████ – There was no concussion. She did fall and landed “face first”. Our coach did record it and shared with the team OHSET advisors who would be responsible to submit to the district chair. The text from 11/16/2017 is between CS, assistant coach Chris Smith and ET, Evon Tekorius the team advisor* – who is a parent and a school board member. (see info in google drive labeled ██████████)

██████████ – There was no concussion. She had a “bad fall” on 11-15-18 during gaming practice when her saddle slipped, due to a loose cinch. (see info in google drive labeled ██████████)

██████████ – Head injury. See the text and notes from the parent to the coach. There is a file with documentation from doctor, injury evaluation, and athletic trainer assessment. There is also a documented concussion where the child fell at home and hit her head in 2015. In 2018 ██████████ was seen by our trainer for head injury. She was cleared on 1/17/2018. (see info in google drive labeled ██████████)

██████████ – There was not a head injury. 11/5/2015 fall from her horse. Health release on 11/11/2015. (see info in google drive labeled ██████████)

██████████ - There was not a head injury. She was not a member of the team following the leg injury because she lived out of district. There was a meeting between the state OHSET representative and the family. ██████████ could have seen our trainer but did not. (see info in google drive labeled ██████████)

3. *Concussion trainings were regularly completed by the OCHS OHSET coach Angie Wacker:* Documented by the Oregon City H.S. Athletic Department. (See google drive for certificates and screenshots).

Name	Exam / Training / NFHS	Completion date
Angie Wacker	Online	3/16/2015
Angie Wacker	Online	12/8/2016
Angie Wacker	Online	11/16/2017
Angie Wacker	Missing the screenshot.	No date.
Angie Wacker	Online	12/1/19

The NFHS website that coaches utilize for concussion training:

<https://nfhslearn.com/courses/concussion-in-sports-2>

OCHS Athletic Trainer:

Amy Lepire-Meithof, M.S., ATC is the trainer; she has been at OCHS since 2014. (See bio & email in google drive.)

Organizational outline for OCHS OHSET team:

Team advisors – parents who are present at practices and events and take care of all the team paperwork. This includes submission of injury or accident reports to the district. *NOTE: One of the Team Advisors for OCHS was also a school board member and board chair for 2019-20. She submitted a letter of support, which is why she didn’t oversee the board hearing.

OHSET document from website: <http://www.ohset.com/documents/sogadvisor.pdf>

Team coach: <http://www.ohset.com/patterns/sogcoach.pdf>

Documentation of the district timeline:

1. Parent complaint procedure was followed at the building level.
2. Investigation of parent complaint was completed by A.P. Andy Jones
3. Student injury concerns were addressed by ODE complaint
4. Principal agreed with the report and findings. This included the consultation with Superintendent Larry Didway. He was included in the original documentation therefore the appeal went directly to the school board.
5. The Oregon City Board of Directors upheld the findings of Mr. Jones and reported their findings to the families involved.
6. Timelines were a point of contention but the family welcomed the attention to detail by Mr. Jones via email correspondence.
 - a. 10/24/19 complaint filed at OCHS with Carey Wilhelm by John Widmer.
 - b. 11/4/19 response to John Widmer regarding coach concerns from Andy Jones, OCHS A.D.
 - c. 11/8/19 appeal from John Widmer to OCHS Principal Carey Wilhelm.
 - d. 11/8/19 Principal Wilhelm replied to John Widmer. The investigation was upheld.
 - e. 11/8/19 School Board Secretary, Brenda Kirk responded to John Widmer letting him know a meeting would be scheduled.
 - f. 12/5/19 School Board Secretary, Brenda Kirk responded to John Widmer that he would be scheduled to meet with the directors on 12/9/19. It was later moved to 12/16/19 as a result of a scheduling issue. Mr. Widmer was informed.
 - g. 12/16/19 School Board Meeting Work Session appeal heard during executive session.
 - h. 12/19/19 letter sent to John Widmer and other families regarding the appeal being upheld.

Notice of Action taken by the district regarding the complaint:

Oregon City School District will work in full cooperation with the department of education to administer any necessary findings.

Additionally, further documentation that has been submitted to the district OHSET chair will now also be maintained within our records for future reference. We have found that records submitted to the district have not always been turned into the state officials.

There will be additional monitoring of accident reports for follow through and documentation purposes by the high school athletic director.

Sincerely,

John Ogden
Director of Human Resources, Oregon City S.D

C: Larry Didway, Superintendent