



Pride. Performance. Potential.

3 West VanBuren Street • Battle Creek, Michigan 49017

Office of the Superintendent

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October 21, 2016

Dear Outdoor Education Center Participating Schools,

For more than 60 years, Battle Creek Public Schools has owned and operated an Outdoor Education Center at Clear Lake Camp. Servicing more than 2000 students from 45 public and charter schools across 11 Michigan school districts, we pride ourselves on providing a quality outdoor educational experience for the students and families we serve. At the end of June 2016, allegations of inappropriate behavior were levied against a contracted employee, which we take very seriously. Upon notification of the complaint, the resident district immediately alerted Child Protective Services, BCPS launched an internal investigation and the employee was not allowed to return to the camp.

The internal investigation has revealed no criminal wrongdoing, and although the external investigation has not concluded, our camp remains licensed and in full operation. Although no suggestions were made by the licensing agents for changes in our processes and procedures, Battle Creek Public School's top priority is the safety and security of our students, visitors, and employees and we will continue to review our protocols and practices to ensure that we can maintain our high standards.

It should be noted that permanent and contracted employees associated with BCPS undergo a rigorous pre-hire process. This process includes a state and federal background check, finger printing, drug screening, and reference checks. Additionally, camp employees must also undergo the rigorous pre-employment process associated with state licensure requirements.

The Outdoor Education Center at Clear Lake Camp is committed to continuing to provide a high quality, safe and educational environment for all of the students we serve.

If there are any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached via email at [kcarter@battle-creek.k12.mi.us](mailto:kcarter@battle-creek.k12.mi.us).

With Regards,

Kimberly M. Carter, Ed.S.  
Superintendent