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News

Special Needs Student Sues DC Public Schools, 9NEWS NOW & WUSA9.COM

09.09.10

By Delia Gonçalves

WASHINGTON, D.C. (WUSA) -- An "emotionally disturbed" student at Shadd Transition Academy on East Capitol St., SE is the mother of a 10 month old girl. She alleges the baby's father is her former teacher, 58 year old Robert Weismiller of Ocean City, Md.

A recent test proved paternity 99.99%. "If this happened at a private school in DC this would have been handled immediately," said Attorney Scott Gilbert, "but here is this girl who was was emotionally vulnerable- that's why she was at this school- and nobody helps her."

Gilbert said his client, Ayanna Blue, is now 20 years old and was 18 at the time of the incidents. He said she is living in transitional housing and is back at Shadd finishing up her senior year.

According to court documents at least 5 teachers knew she was having sex with Weismiller for nearly 5 months last school year but no one ever reported it. DCPS conducted an investigation only after the student discovered she was pregnant in May of 2009.

Weismiller was placed on paid leave and was laid off in the sweeping budget cuts announced last October. "Chancellor Rhee did not mention him by name but we're assuming when she said there was a teacher who had sex with students she was referring to Mr. Weismiller," explained Attorney Gilbert.

"We keep on hiring the wrong people and when they (DCPS) learn about situations like this they and brush it under the rug, just like Ayanna was brushed under the rug."

DCPS found the teacher "not liable" and he was never charged criminally because they said the 18 year old student was a consenting adult, even though many of their sexual encounters occured in his classroom during the lunch period.

Despite numerous attempts, DCPS never returned our requests for comment on this story.



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Associated People

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