

Dear Members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

Had it not been for cameras being installed in my grandson's class for him and his classmates, my daughter nor the other three parents would've known their children were being physically, verbally and emotionally abused by their teacher and his three aides.

I'm so glad that the school went through the tapes, and saw where my grandson had been pushed down on his knee, which is still giving him trouble. The other students were slapped, pushed down, pinched and cursed at as well, and it was on tape. The teacher and his two male aides and one female aide were all aware of the camera, but since Horace Mann Middle School is a school of excellence, I guess there was no need to view a tape. One of the students in the class, a female, wouldn't stop crying, and another teacher reported the constant crying to the Vice Principal, who brought it to the attention of the Principal, who decided to look at that day's classroom activity. Wow, this really happened!

The principal got the Charleston, WV police department involved, and they ended up looking at tapes from January 2021 to the end of May 2021, even though most of the parents had taken their children out of the class. One teacher and three aides took advantage of four non-verbal and autistic students. Thank God for cameras in the classroom, because had the camera not caught this activity, my grandson and the other three students could still be going through this torture.

One has had a hearing, and before she takes the plea deal, her attorney wants to see the tapes. The other three are soon to have their hearings as well. They deserve everything that they might receive.

Sincerely,

Linda King  
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