

Sent from my iPhone  
Donna

On Jul 22, 2019, at 6:51 PM, Aiello, Donna <[Donnal.Aiello@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:Donnal.Aiello@new-haven.k12.ct.us)> wrote:

Dear Lisa Mack,

I just read the recent article in the Independent about the complaint being filed by the new COO. I have to say the article gave me courage to file my own complaint against Mrs. Keisha Redd-Hannans.

I was called into her office on July 8th regarding my assignment for this year. During the conversation she insisted that she was answering a request I made to transfer from my current position. At the end of that discussion she reminded me that according to my contract she could transfer me to any other assignment. I have to say I felt extremely anticipated by her demeanor and tone. I assured her that I was aware of that clause in the contract and asked if she was going to let me know and she said she was thinking about it.

At the end of that discussion she then told me that she wanted to discuss a matter regarding an email response I sent to her. She accused me of being extremely disrespectful and unprofessional in my response to her. I was SHOCKED by her remarks, her tone and her disdain for me. I tried to explain to her that in no way was I being disrespectful or unprofessional and asked her to tell me exactly what she found to be disrespectful. She read my email back to me line by line and told me basically that she was the supervisor and called the meeting and that I had no right to tell her I was "willing" to come in and discuss the matter. She stated that my willingness has nothing to do with anything and that when she calls a meeting I'm to report to her regardless of whether I am willing or not. I was completely flabbergasted and immediately felt sick to my stomach. I tried to explain the context of the email but all she kept doing was shaking her head no and telling me that no other supervisor or employee would ever send her such an email. I explained that I meant no disrespect and told her I was not going to sit there and defend myself for something I did not do. I was so shaken and upset by that encounter and felt so harassed I called my union president, Sequella Coleman to tell her how upset I was. I also told her I wanted to file a work place harassment claim. I was shaking and sick to my stomach. I felt degraded and abused. I did not want to return to work and when I did I shared it with my principal Margaret Mary Gethings. I have been working for NHPS in many leadership capacities for over 28 years. Never in all my time have I ever been treated like this. I did not file the claim immediately because of fear of retaliation and further harassment from Mrs. Hannans.

I believe that i am being retaliated against because of some positions I have taken on the budget committee when I voted against the transfer of the 54 teachers. I also know that after the first meeting she called one of our union officers and told that person I said something that I didn't.

On another occasion last school year I was called into her office and verbally reprimanded for something I did not do. She advised me to bring my union rep with me because the meeting could have resulted in disciplinary action. She claimed she had 24 email complaints about me from staff at my school. When I asked her to share those complaints with me she would not. When I asked her then why would she be calling me in because I had the right to see those complaints she said she was giving me verbal feedback and that I should be reflecting on my behavior. I told her if I didn't have evidence to reflect on then I could not reflect on hear say. I left that meeting feeling extremely upset and accused of doing something I certainly did not.

During my recent meeting with her on the 8th I brought up the fact that I felt attacked and accused at that meeting and she told me that she was not accusing me that she was merely giving me feedback. I told her that it certainly felt accusatory and that it was unwarranted.

At this point I feel that there is a pattern here of harassment and that now I have to speak up for my rights. I am a loyal, committed, hard working, dedicated to New Haven employee and I feel she is trying to force me out somehow. I have been an exemplary teacher and administrator for my entire tenure in this district.

Please let me know when we can discuss this complaint.

Respectfully,

Sent from my iPhone  
Donna