

EXHIBIT B

PERSONAL STATEMENT OF COMPLAINANT JENNIFER DAMBROSIO

Jennifer Dambrosio was employed at CMSA from March 2010-May 2016 as the Physical Education Teacher, Character Education Teacher, Athletic Director, and Basketball Coach. This is her written statement.

When I first started at CMSA, I was hired as the physical education ("PE") teacher and character education teacher. CMSA did not have a gym at that time, but they told the staff members that they were in the process of getting a gym built. During that time (2010) the cafeteria was used for PE class, and classes that had a conflict with lunches did not have physical activity during the winter. Once the weather got warmer, the PE classes would go across the street to Touhy Park or use the parking lot behind the school (now where the gym is located) for gym class.

During the school years of 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, all of our PE classes were bused to the Chicago Parks Department on Howard Street. The school rented out the gym for the times of our gym classes and paid a bus company to take our classes from CMSA to the Howard center facility, wait for our gym classes to finish, and then transport us back to CMSA. With the time it took to bus the students to and from the Howard Street facility, students received twenty minutes or less of actual PE time.

During that time, the gym was being built. A Turkish construction company was hired to build the gym, and Turkish people worked on the construction of the gym.

Once the gym was built, from the very beginning there were problems. Before the flooring was even installed, the roof was already leaking constantly in a number of areas, creating large puddles on the concrete floor. We started using large garbage cans to collect the water when it rained. Before the flooring was installed, there were already cracks in the new cement on the floor and on the walls throughout the gym.

After the flooring was installed, they installed a very large and heavy electronic bleacher system that rolls out once connected to a remote control device. The bleachers are attached to the north wall of the gym, and it can hold about 600 people. The bleachers are so heavy and putting so much pressure on the floor that every time the bleachers are pulled out, it pulls on the flooring. The flooring was already starting to buckle and rip apart at the seams. CMSA had a few Turkish men come in and fix the flooring by cutting out the part of the flooring and replacing it with a more sturdy material, which happens to be a different color than the original floor. The material they used to replace the original flooring seemed to be sturdier, but now there are different

colored patches. There are still other areas where the flooring is ripping, buckling and coming apart.

Since its construction, the gym's roof has had a number of leaks in a variety of places. When it rains or the snow melts, water leaks down all four walls of the gym. Water also drips from a number of places on the roof, and in the northwest end of the gym at the end of the ramp to exit/enter the gym there is always heavy leaking and puddles. The northwest ramp/door exit/entrance to the gym floods many times as well. In the southwest area of the gym, there is another door on the south wall and outside of that door is a very small concrete patio that drops off into grassy area. When it rains very heavily, the water comes in from under that door and floods that area of the gym.

This leads to the climate of the gym. They have four thermostats in the gym, but many times only two work. In the winter time, it is very cold in the gym, and in the summer time if the air conditioner is not working properly, it is very hot and humid. In the winter students had to wear jackets to class because it was so cold. The gym itself seems like a warehouse because it is very drafty and cold. When entering the gym from the main doors located on the east side of the gym, you can feel a strong draft. The draft was so strong that sometimes the doors would be pushed slightly open due to it.

CMSA had a major rodent problem in the gym as well. Mice and rats were spotted in the gym and in the changing rooms where students change. Mice droppings were found in the changing rooms and in the gym office. In the back of the building outside of the gym a large dead rat was found. The school attempted to address this issue by installing traps in the gym office and changing rooms, but we still continued to find droppings. I believe this is a health concern, which brings me to the next point. CMSA did not have anyone to consistently clean the gym floor. Many times students were made to sweep and mop the entire gym as punishment for poor behavior or during a detention. Since the floor was not consistently cleaned or cleaned properly, the floor was very dusty and slippery. Salt was brought in during the winter, and it was not cleaned up properly. This created a dusty film on the floor and stains on the floor. When students would run, this dust and salt would get stirred up, and students with asthma would have problems breathing and have to sit out and not participate as much. Even students without asthma would get winded quickly because they were breathing in dust particles.

CMSA has had different people/companies come to look at the roof to address the leaking and fix it, but the leaking always continues, especially down the walls and in the area by the ramp in the northwest corner of the gym.

While I was there, the staff members were always told that CMSA and Concept Schools were experiencing budget issues and budget cuts. Staff members were never shown a budget, but CMSA and Concept blamed Chicago Public Schools for a lot of their budget issues.

Jennifer Dambrosio