



September 4, 2015

Morgan Hall
Deputy Chief of Assessments
District of Columbia Public Schools
Washington, DC

Dear Ms. Hall,

Please consider this letter as the official notification of final findings for the Test Integrity investigations that were conducted by Alvarez and Marsal, LLC (A&M) at District of Columbia Public Schools for the test administration of the 2013-2014 District of Columbia Comprehensive Assessment System (DC CAS).

Each year, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) reviews the state assessment (DC CAS in 2013-14) to ensure the validity and reliability of the assessment results. As part of this process, OSSE reviews test security protocols and data to ensure the tests were administered with fidelity. OSSE takes breaches in test security very seriously. Any violation undermines trust in our entire educational system by casting doubt on student achievement and the positive growth we have been seeing citywide.

OSSE contractor Alvarez and Marsal (A&M) completed comprehensive investigations of the classrooms identified, applying rigorous standardized processes involving site visits, document reviews and one-on-one interviews. Close attention was paid to the testing environment which included directly asking school staff and students about their participation in or knowledge of testing violations in the schools.

OSSE has reviewed the results of this year's investigations and found DCPS schools to have the following findings:

School	Finding(s)
Brightwood EC	No findings
Cardozo EC	Critical: Insufficient evidence secure materials were returned; and Minor: Inconsistent sign-in/sign-out process for secure test materials.
Columbia Heights EC	Critical: Providing unauthorized test accommodations.
Dunbar HS	Critical: Providing unauthorized test accommodations; and Minor: Inconsistent sign-in/sign-out process for secure test materials.
Eliot Hine MS	No findings
Hart MS	No findings
Hendley ES	Critical: Providing unauthorized test accommodations; and Moderate: Unreported deviation from test security plan.
Patterson ES	No findings
Plummer ES	No findings
Stanton ES	No findings
Truesdell EC	Minor: Inconsistent sign-in/sign-out process for secure test materials.





Violations of any nature jeopardize OSSE's ability to accurately report test results, and we look forward to finding ways to better support all LEAs in the future around test integrity. At this point, no further action is required from you or your LEA, and OSSE now considers these investigations closed.

OSSE appreciates your partnership in this process, and if you have any questions about the findings or the process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jessica Enos
Director of Assessment
Office of the State Superintendent of Education

