

My name is Kelly Bushey, owner and director of Connected Circles.
I am here to provide you with an update as to where we are in the process.

Since you last heard from me, a student has been un-enrolled from his local public highschool as he has been unable to engage in his program within the community setting. Despite every effort and accommodation that we have offered and tried to provide, this process has pushed a student out. Prior to Dec 1, when the Agency required us to make this shift in service location, this student was attending school between 75-80% of the time. These are real life stories of students being impacted by this process.

On January 11th, I emailed the Independent Schools team, asking for a status update. There was no response to my inquiry until the morning of January 18th at 8:20 a.m. (just before the SBE meeting)

This update indicated that the agency would be sending out the visiting team's report by the end of January. I replied- letting them know that the ADA bathroom would be complete by the end of that day. Inviting them to return to see that it is here (as was indicated would happen during their site visit)

I received a response that they would not be coming back to inspect it- that I could send photos. A few minutes later, a follow up email came in indicating that I would need to call the Fire Marshall to come and inspect it. (changing goal posts again)

I immediately began communicating with the Fire Marshall and arranged for him to come and inspect the bathroom. He did come on Jan 30th– and was very confused as to why he needed to do so as they are not ones to have required this. He shared that ADA bathrooms are only required when/if a current bathroom is being upgraded. However, He did issue another Certificate of Occupancy letting the agency staff know that he had been here.

When I heard that we would receive the report by the end of January- I asked about the possibility of being on today's committee agenda. I was told that it might be a possibility .

Monday, Jan 30th, I let agency staff know that the Fire Marshall had come and gone. I was told that our report would be updated to remove "the finding" of the lack of ADA bathroom and it was hoped to be sent out by the end of the day on the 30th.

1:45 January 31st, I emailed Agency staff again, summarizing the timeline that had been shared with me and asking if we would receive the report by the end of the day as indicated.

It is now the afternoon of Feb 1st and we still do not have a report.

While the rules allow us a 30 day response period, I can assure you that we will respond immediately following receipt of the report. I have already formulated our response, based on the two findings that have been shared with me (Lack of ADA bathroom- which is now resolved,

and lack of Social Studies teacher) If there are any surprises, this may take a bit longer- but I anticipate that we will reply within 24 hours.

We are grateful for the support and understanding you've shown towards us during this process. We continue to ask for your support and advocacy to move us forward, as we fear further delay will continue to harm our students.