

Adrianna Foglesong

8634 Denman Road Mansfield, OH 44904

740-504-4760

foglesongam@gmail.com

11/25/2024

Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center

890 West Fourth Street Mansfield, OH 44906

419-774-5520

419-774-5523

To whom it may concern,

This is a letter of resignation to take place on 12/1/2024. Unfortunately, I will be resigning from my role as an Occupational Therapy Assistant from Mid-Ohio ESC contracted to Lexington Local School district.

In the weeks and months prior to a meeting with Assistant Director of Student Services, Shelly Patrick on 11/6/2024, I discussed concerns and discrepancies within the Special Education Department at Lexington. Those issues that I expressed were not addressed. For my mental health, I requested to move to a part time role. I offered my part time services to help with the large workload and keep continuity for the students at Lexington. During the meeting on November 6<sup>th</sup>, Shelly expressed that it would be ok.

A follow up meeting was held with Shelly Patrick on 11/13/2024. At this meeting, it was brought to attention that I would not be able to deviate from that contract because it was for a full-time position for the entire school year. I was then advised to have a meeting with Jennifer Reed, HR. At this meeting, I again stated that I would like to resign and leave the company and district on good terms starting 12/1/2024. On 11/15/24 I emailed Jennifer Reed to schedule an appointment and made sure the topic was evident.

On 11/21/2024, I met with Jennifer Reed to discuss my going to part-time or putting in for a resignation. I also asked what needed to be completed for my parting with the company, as it was evident at that time that my part-time requested would not be fulfilled. Jennifer could not provide me answers. She continued to state that "I will have to check with the Superintendent on that."

I called Jennifer Reed and left a voicemail on 11/22/2024 to see if she spoke with the Superintendent of Mid-Ohio ESC to get the appropriate answers. She called back replying that the contract needed to be upheld and if I terminated my contract then the company and ODE "may" suspend my pupil licensure for up to a year. -Ohio revised code 3319.15. In the code it states "and without consent of the local board of education".

I then contacted superintendent of Lexington Local Schools, Jeremy Secrist, to talk about my concerns and discuss the code. From there a meeting was scheduled for 11/25/2024. I asked to have this meeting outside of school hours so I could continue to meet the needs of my students. My request was denied. As I showed up for the 10:00 a.m. meeting, I was approached by Jennifer Reed and Jennifer Crum, and asked to sit in the lobby until they were situated and ready. The group met without me as I waited. At 10:15 a.m. I was directed back to the meeting room which consisted of Jeremy Secrist (Lexington superintendent), Jennifer Crum (Director of student services Mid-Ohio ESC), Shelly Patrick (Assistant director of student services Mid-Ohio ESC), Jennifer Reed (Mid-Ohio ESC HR), Julie Borthes (Mid-Ohio ESC/Lexington Director of Special Education), and Mr. Kimble (Superintendent of Mid-Ohio ESC).

This meeting was interrogative and offensive. I offered my part time supports to help aide and transition my replacement due to my deep devotion and concern for my students. The leadership group demonstrated no desire to change the circumstances or provide the proper support.

I was consistent in having discussions with the appropriate people because I care about the students and staff at Lexington. I wish Mid-Ohio ESC and Lexington Local Schools the best. I truly hope a change occurs that can benefit the special education staff and students.

Best regards,

Adrianna Foglesong, COTA/L

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