Good morning,

Of the 4 schools I have visited, plus the fifth school I requested my mother vet, I can only agree with my son attending Phyl’s Academy in Coral Springs. His curriculum will consist of a VPK lesson plan, although he is not due to be enrolled in VPK until the fall. The community is safe and Phyl’s academy has an international reputation beyond Florida for early childhood academic achievement. My family also has personal relationships with some of the staff, teachers and administrators who have been made aware of Lionel’s unfortunate experience over the past four months and have unofficially assured us their sensitivity to his troubles.

Lionel’s mother has refused to agree on the basis of Phyl’s increased distance and monthly cost. Please note that the daycare she selected is 5 miles away from Lionel’s previous school, Coconut Creek Academy, and Phyl’s is 3 miles away. I did not point this out to her as she has a habit of not letting facts get in the way of her decisions. The increased cost amounts to an additional $30 a week, or, an additional $15 per parent. I cannot and will not agree to the mother’s selected daycare, One World Preschools, because of its proximate location to high crime areas coupled with the campus’ unimpressive security. There is nothing particularly appealing about the staff or curriculum either.

I have also visited “The Learning Experience” and “ABC Learning Center”, both of which are in Coral Springs, and “Children’s World South Preschool” in Fort Lauderdale was vetted by mother whose opinion and judgment I trust and value. At this point, I cannot agree to any of them due to varying issues of their facilities, cost, or curriculum.

Lionel’s behavior, and resulting expulsion from Coconut Creek Academy is symptomatic of the separation trauma caused by his removal from the people with whom, and environments with which he feels most comfortable. Ariel has also evoked similar symptoms. I can detail their posttraumatic responses and restate the triggers I identified months ago if need be, but I feel my insight on the subject being consistently rejected and ignored by you and their mother. In lieu of any respect for my concerns, I am requesting an update on your conversations with my children as it relates to their concerns, experiences and desires. As their advocate, I expect you should have clear picture of that by now. My conversations with them and their conversations with my family have revealed the reality of my worst fears. Any notes on your inquiries with them and their responses will be appreciated as it can help elucidate the most appropriate approach I will need to mitigate and ultimately heal the damage that has been done.

Odalys has agreed to allow Ariel and Lionel travel with my mother to New York on the 17th of January and return on the 21st of January and will provide a letter to that effect.