

Regarding the report issued by DRCT, Shrub Oak International School would like to provide the following statement:

"The report in question, as noted in the introduction of the report, relies on historical data and observations dating back to the 2021-2024 school years. As such, it does not provide an accurate or timely reflection of Shrub Oak's current operations, facility standards, or the daily experiences of our students.

We were not granted the opportunity to verify the validity of the specific claims within this report prior to its release. While Shrub Oak International School is dedicated to a culture of continuous improvement, the findings in this report were compiled without the opportunity for our clinical or administrative teams to provide essential context. These blanket statements fail to account for the complex, individualized needs of our student population and the specialized nature of the care we provide. Furthermore, many of the historical points referenced have been addressed by significant program enhancements and operational system improvements implemented over the last several years. In support of these same efforts around ongoing improvement, since the time of the Period Under Review (PUR) referenced in the article Shrub Oak has achieved enhanced accreditations from our current accrediting bodies and is actively pursuing additional accreditations to further bolster the quality and credibility of the school.

It is also worth noting that in comparison to DRCT's non-collaborative approach Disability Rights New York (DRNY) raised similar concerns to those cited here and have been directly engaged with us for more than 2 years in a proactive and collaborative way. During that time we have engaged with them in many meaningful visits and meetings, have been able to provide context in places where initial concerns may have lacked foundational context, and have worked together to make notable improvements which have been directly observed by DRNY first-hand during both announced and unannounced visits.

We remain focused on our mission of providing a safe, supportive, and evolving environment for every student we serve, and as always welcome the engagement of any and all organizations interested in working collaboratively to better the lives of the children and families we serve."