

CHANGING THE WORLD  
ONE GIRL AT A TIME



**ADMISSION PREVIEW:**  
Sunday, Dec. 7  
1:00 – 4:00 pm

**DAY: PRE-K-12**  
**BOARDING: 8-12**

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# PRESTON HOLLOW PEOPLE

## ESD Trial, Day 14 UPDATED

Former CFO Chris Burrow is slated to testify today for the plaintiffs. Of course, he was also slated to testify yesterday, and that didn't happen so we shall see where this goes. There was a Nov. 4, 2010 document filed by the plaintiffs that accuses Burrow of having inappropriate conversations with Nathan Campbell. That's about as much as I feel I can legally say on the matter for now. Stay tuned.

Other notes: People have been commenting about ESD's offers of proof on Mr. and Mrs. Doe, specifically the testimony about their parenting and why it wasn't allowed to be given in front of a jury. That decision was actually made [way back in July](#) during pretrial motions.

Brent Walker's first motion to Judge D'Metria Benson was that no evidence/line of questioning be allowed regarding the parents' personal

decisions in raising their daughter. He offered a lot of previous cases that showed in Texas, parents are free to raise their children any ol' way they like and it still doesn't mean the kid deserves to be targeted by a sex predator.

In short, the parents could have sent the girl out of the house in a bikini and employees of schools/businesses would still have a responsibility to control themselves from having sex with her. The parents, as far as the law is concerned, bear no blame for what another entity does to their child. Of course, Benson could have said "hogwash" and allowed the questions if she so desired.

She didn't. So ESD's attorneys won't be asking them in front of the jury, barring a total 180 from the judge. They will however, continue to ask them on the record because, as Chrysta Castaneda [stated Monday](#), the Court of Appeals looks at that sort of thing.

#### **UPDATE 12:05 p.m.**

We're in a lunch recess until 1:30 p.m. Here's the rundown.

#### **10:15 a.m.**

Chris Burrow takes the stand with Charla Aldous questioning. Burrow says he has been employed at ESD for more than 15 years and is still employed there, though no longer as CFO. There's no further clarification on his current role at the school.

#### **10:20 a.m.**

Burrow says he was involved in investigating the relationship between Jane Doe II and Nathan Campbell after the Nov. 29 incident with the Farmers Branch police.

He also confirms that when he escorted Campbell off campus on Dec. 1, Campbell told him he'd had sex with Doe II.

Aldous asks Burrow if he immediately told Rebecca Royall about this revelation.

"I don't recall exactly when I told Rebecca," he says. "But I did inform her as soon as I was able."

#### **10:25 a.m.**

Aldous asks Burrow if he called Campbell after being deposed on Sept. 24, 2010.

"I did," Burrow says.

"Did you share information about this lawsuit with him?" Aldous asks.

Burrow says he doesn't recall. He also says he spoke with Campbell "more than once" after his deposition.

"And at no point did you share information related to this civil lawsuit?" Aldous asks.

“I don’t recall what we talked about in terms of this civil lawsuit,” Burrow says, adding that he was seeking “important financial information” from Campbell that had been presented to Burrow during his deposition by attorney Brent Walker.

**10:30 a.m.**

Burrow says the information he sought included a policy manual Campbell developed for “a program he managed.”

“Did you ever share with Nathan Campbell information that you thought would benefit him in his criminal case?” Aldous asks.

“I do not recall having a conversation with Nathan related to the specifics of this case,” Burrow says.

“You don’t recall it, but you can’t say it didn’t happen — It’s possible you could have shared information you knew about the civil case that could benefit him in the criminal case?” Aldous asks.

“I believe I would have remembered that if I was trying to share that type of information,” Burrow says.

**10:35 a.m.**

Aldous asks Burrow if he recalls telling Campbell to “bide his time” in the criminal case until after the civil case is finished.

“I don’t recall making that statement,” Burrow says.

Aldous asks Burrow if he recalls wishing Campbell “the best possible outcome” in his criminal trial.

“What you have stated does not register in my memory,” Burrow says. “I do not recall that I was specifically trying to influence Nathan Campbell in anyway. That was not the purpose of the conversation.”

Aldous asks Burrow if he would ever wish a sexual predator like Nathan Campbell “the best possible outcome” in a criminal trial.

“I do not consider Nathan Campbell a friend,” Burrow says. “I have offered to testify against Nathan Campbell in his criminal trial, and I look forward to doing so.”

Aldous asks Burrow if he believes it would ever be acceptable under any circumstances for Burrow as the CFO of ESD to offer to help Campbell in his criminal trial in an effort to help ESD in the civil suit it was facing.

“It was not my goal to help Nathan Campbell in anyway,” Burrow says, later clarifying his answer at the request of the judge to “No, I do not.”

**10:40 a.m.**

“Do you recall telling Nathan Campbell that he should not testify in the Doe case?” Aldous asks.

“I do not recall,” Burrow says.

Aldous presses further, asking Burrow if he can “look the jury in the eye” and say he never told Campbell not to testify.

“I have no recollection of making that statement,” Burrow says.

Aldous asks Burrow if he recalls telling Nathan Campbell that the case against ESD was “weak.”

True to form, Burrow says he can’t remember.

**10:45 a.m.**

Aldous changes gears to 501(c)(3) and religious affiliation questions. Chrysta Castaneda, who has been on a pogo stick of objections all morning takes it to a new heights with this line of questioning. Benson allows the questions, considering Burrow is the Chief Financial Officer and thus the most qualified person ESD has to address its tax status.

Burrow says that ESD is not technically classified by the IRS as a religious organization itself, but it does have an affiliate designation and therefore is exempt from filing 990 tax returns.

**10:55 a.m.**

Burrow says the Episcopal School of Dallas is “inclusive of many religions.”

**11 a.m.**

Aldous details the three-tiered physical security system at ESD, then asks Burrow if it’s as important to protect students from outside predators as it is from sexual predators located within the school’s walls.

“I believe it’s extremely important to protect students in ever manner you’ve described,” Burrow says.

**11:05 a.m.**

Aldous establishes that ESD contracts with Children’s Medical Center to have psychologists on campus in case of “crisis situations.”

“Is sexual abuse a state of crisis?” Aldous asks.

Burrow says he believes it is.

“But not at one time did a school psychologist meet or counsel Jane Doe II, did they?” Aldous asks.

Burrow says he was not “privy” to those discussions.

**11:10 a.m.**

Aldous shows that there's nothing specifically relating to cell phones in ESD's written "Acceptable Use Policy." Burrow says he thought the term "electronic communication systems" was "intentionally broad" to encompass all technology.

Aldous then asks if there's anything about use of ESD vehicles in this policy. After examining it, Burrow says there's not but he believes that issue is covered in the employee handbook.

Moving on to email usage, Aldous asks if that kind of communication is "routinely monitored."

"We monitor emails of specific employees primarily on a suspicion basis," Burrow says, adding later that the answer to Aldous' question is "No."

Recess until 11:30

**11:30 a.m.**

Burrow clarifies his previous answer, saying that ESD doesn't routinely monitor staff communication "due to privacy issues."

"We don't eavesdrop on telephone calls," he says. "We do not monitor in real-time, and we do not monitor every message or conversation that is taking place."

Burrow goes on to explain that employees were allowed to use ESD cell phones as their personal phones as well as long as they participated in a "payback" program in which they reimbursed the school monthly for a portion of the bill. He says he believes Campbell chose to enroll in this program, but before he resigned before it took effect.

**11:45 a.m.**

Burrow says Campbell was given an ESD credit card when he became the director of the Center for Global Citizenship (this was previously identified as the Global Awareness Center).

Burrow says he's not aware of any written policies governing the use of ESD credit cards.

**11:50 a.m.**

Campbell had use of an ESD-owned suburban "strictly for school purposes," Burrow says.

Aldous asks Burrow if he was aware that Jane Doe II testified that she had sex with Campbell in an ESD suburban on two occasions and that he frequently met up with her while using the vehicle.

"I have no personal knowledge of that," Burrow says.

Burrow confirms that Campbell had a key to the Center for Global Citizenship house on campus, but says he never knew that Campbell slept there or asked Jane Doe II to have sex with him in the house, which was fully furnished.

## **Noon**

Burrow says approved uses of Campbell's credit card were for supplies in the Global Citizenship house and airfare for visitors. He says all employees' credit cards were "regularly monitored."

"If there was a violation of any kind, it would've been reviewed with the employee," Burrow says.

Lunch recess until 1:30 p.m.

## **2 p.m.**

I returned from recess to find Benson ruling on the video deposition of Dr. Andy McGarrahan line by line.

## **2:05 p.m.**

Burrow is back on the stand. Aldous returns to questions about the 501(c)(3) status of ESD. She shows a letter from the IRS in 2001 stating that while the status had temporarily been revoked, it was now reinstated with the understanding that if ESD had any "unrelated business income" they would have to file a separate 990-T form.

"ESD did have unrelated business income during your tenure, did it not?" Aldous asks.

"I do not personally, as the CFO, make that designation," Burrow says, adding that the school's tax advisors were in charge of making that call.

## **2:15 p.m.**

Burrow confirms that using an ESD credit card to buy alcohol would be a violation of policy.

Aldous shows evidence that Campbell bought two Shiner beers from South Austin Grill and two Heat Wheat beers from Shuckers of Fells Point using his ESD credit card.

"I never saw these charges until you presented them to me in my deposition," Burrow says, adding that Erin Mayo was Campbell's immediate supervisor and the one who would have reprimanded him.

## **2:20 p.m.**

Aldous shows that Campbell used an ESD credit card to check into the Westin Hotel on Oct. 22, 2009, when he reportedly had sex with Jane Doe II. Burrow says he believes the charge was preapproved for a room for "visitors from India," but it was never used for that purpose.

Aldous asks if Burrow has documentation showing the preapproval. He says he's not sure where the documentation is or if it exists in a file at ESD.

"It may be there," he says.

**2:30 p.m.**

Aldous asks Burrow if Campbell used his ESD-issued iPhone for a lot of inappropriate communication with a student, doesn't that show he had no fear of openly violating the school's policies?

"I cannot imagine what another person was thinking about his cell phone bill," Burrow says. "I wouldn't have done it, but I wouldn't have done a lot of things Nathan Campbell did."

**2:35 p.m.**

Campbell's cell phone bill showed he texted Jane Doe II during school hours. On Nov. 5, he texted her 35 times in a span of two hours.

**2:40 p.m.**

The only cell phone bill that ESD says it ever got for Campbell's iPhone lists a previous balance as well as a previous payment.

"I never saw a cell bill until it was received in late December or January," Burrow says.

**2:45 p.m.**

Burrow says he contacted an outside investigation firm to look into Campbell before he resigned.

"Had we had the time, we would've investigated much more than we did," Burrow says.

**2:55 p.m.**

"Given all you've learned about Nathan Campbell's violation of ESD's alleged policies, isn't there some indication that this sexual predator had no fear he'd be caught?" Aldous asks.

"I cannot explain his thinking, actions, or behavior in anyway," Burrow says.

Aldous then moves to approach Benson before continuing her last line of questioning. This turns into a meeting in chambers between counselors from both sides.

**3:55 p.m.**

Return from chambers. Benson tells the jury that Burrow's testimony will continue at a later date.

Aldous calls Dr. Andy McGarrahan, ESD's psychologist since 1999, by video deposition.

McGarrahan said he disagreed with one description Erin Mayo gave of how the school decided it was going to separate Jane Doe II.

“She basically said I agreed to it, and that’s not my recollection of events,” McGarrahan said.

**4 p.m.**

Regarding the decision to force Jane Doe II to withdraw, McGarrahan said, “I was not asked for my input.”

**4:10 p.m.**

McGarrahan said he spent “less than one minute” with Jane Doe II the entire time she was a student at ESD.

**4:15 p.m.**

McGarrahan said he never confirmed the decision that Jane Doe II should be forced to leave ESD, which is how Father Stephen Swann represented the events in his testimony.

“That’s certainly not how I saw it,” McGarrahan said.

**4:20 p.m.**

Aldous, reading from Mayo’s deposition, said that McGarrahan had input while the decision was being made.

“That’s not an accurate statement,” McGarrahan said.

**4:25 p.m.**

Aldous said that according to Swann’s testimony, he was looking to McGarrahan to see if the decision to expel Jane Doe II was the right one.

McGarrahan said he was never told that his opinion was being sought as the deciding factor.

ESD begins cross examination by video deposition.

**4:30 p.m.**

McGarrahan said he told Mayo, Rebecca Royall, and Swann that ESD “was not a healthy place for Jane Doe II.”

“This was going to be a painful, very uncomfortable thing regardless because the school felt, as I did, that this was not going to be a healthy place for her to be.”

**4:35 p.m.**

“This was not a place where she could maybe ever escape what people were thinking or saying about her,” McGarrahan said.

McGarrahan didn't think that the decision on whether or not to keep Jane Doe II at ESD should have been made after consulting her parents, her therapist or the child herself.

"Sometimes the school makes decisions that parents don't like," he said. "I agree that it was in her best interest to leave.

**4:40 p.m.**

Plaintiffs call teacher Susan Weil by her deposition, which was theatrically represented by Brent Walker and Charla Aldous. Weil was the first person to bring the "wedding ring incident" to Mayo's attention in January.

"I'm surprised to find out it's that important to this case," she said. "Because it seems like a small part."

She said she wasn't aware Mayo used her report as the justification for expelling Jane Doe II.

**4:45 p.m.**

ESD's cross examination shows through video testimony that Weil thought the wedding ring incident made students "visibly uncomfortable."

Plaintiffs call Elaine Biewenga by her deposition, once again reading the parts. Biewenga said she never heard anyone associate Jane Doe II's name with Campbell until May 2010, but in January she assumed students having a heated discussion were discussing JDII. She reported the "heated discussion" along with her suspicion that it revolved around JDII.

Biewenga said she never had problems with JDII and that the pair had "a really nice rapport and a nice relationship." After JDII left ESD, Biewenga, her advisor, sent her a card signed by all the students in her advisory class.

Biewenga remembered that Tolly Salz told her that JDII could be "a difficult student" while they were in the teacher's lounge. But Biewenga said she disagreed and would describe JDII as "delightful."

**4:50 p.m.**

ESD begins cross-examination by video deposition. Biewenga said at the emergency faculty meeting called after Campbell's resignation, Mayo told everyone that Campbell "was in good health and not to be concerned."

Biewenga said she had heard that Campbell "had done something," but she didn't have clue what it was. She said there was "unrest" among the students because he had been such a popular teacher.

"They loved him tremendously," she said.

Biewenga described the students at ESD as "very supportive" of each other as a whole, but she said they did not seem to be supportive of Jane Doe II in this situation.

**5 p.m.**

Court is in recess and will resume tomorrow, reportedly with Erin Mayo's testimony.

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By [Claire St. Amant](#) Aug. 24, 2011 | 8:40 am | [52 Comments](#) | [Comments RSS](#)

## 52 comments to "ESD Trial, Day 14 UPDATED"

**No Perry Mason** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:02 am](#)

Like it or not, the Judge is simply following the law on this issue.

**trial watcher 2** @ August 24, 2011 at [12:55 pm](#)

Hum. Has Chris Burrow been dipping into Father Swann's anti anxiety medicine? Is truth serum still used? They need a big dose.

**Garfunkel** @ August 24, 2011 at [12:59 pm](#)

Judge Benson is insane to allow the tax status of ESD to go to the jury. That's a pure question of law and she needs to decide it. ESD's appellate brief is going to be huge. This woman should not be on the bench. Wow

**Bystander** @ August 24, 2011 at [1:37 pm](#)

Can someone let me in on the line of questioning? Are they trying to get Burrow to admit that Campbell confessed to him and Burrow did not report it? Or what do you think the point is?

**Uppercase Matt** @ August 24, 2011 at [1:43 pm](#)

Interesting point, Garfinkle, re an appellate brief. You clearly assume that ESD is going to lose this case, and then will appeal. But even if they won an appeal and it got remanded for a new trial — would ESD possibly want another several weeks of bad press during a second trial?

**hard to believe** @ August 24, 2011 at [1:46 pm](#)

Well at least the ESD lawyers have coached Mr. Burrow well. Tough witness! It is hard to believe how poor his memory is. What is he trying to hide in his communications with Nathan Campbell? At least, Mr. Burrow has guaranteed he can never be accused of lying under oath. Aldous seems to be hinting she has knowledge of these communications!?

**episcopal parent** @ August 24, 2011 at [2:18 pm](#)

@ Bystander, it would seem that Aldous is asking Burrow whether as ESD's CFO he contacted Campbell (another witness and soon-to-be-convicted deviant) and tried to influence his testimony. Based upon the line of questions and the "I don't recall answers", Burrow is not sure what Aldous can prove. ESD seems to have had no control over their employees who are now witnesses.

It was interesting as well that Tolly Salz adopted a lot of "I do not recall" answers and then called Claire to clarify her testimony. What kind of witness in a case like this ever calls the press to spin the reporting? What a kook.

One of the other comments last week said something about how JDII should "never have admitted" answering the door in a towel. Of course she should have — she was testifying under oath, and truthful people answer even embarrassing or potentially damaging questions truthfully. Truthful people don't conveniently "forget" what they've done.

**Garfunkel** @ August 24, 2011 at [2:21 pm](#)

I do think there will be some finding of liability (given how one-sided Benson's rulings have been) but I can't imagine the damages will be huge. I suspect both sides will appeal.

As far as new trial, maybe both sides will get more realistic about settlement after the court of appeals slaps this case around. The other possibility is that the court of appeals reverses and renders - no remand. It's quite possible given that the judge isn't ruling on obvious legal questions.

**kindergarten view** @ August 24, 2011 at [3:24 pm](#)

Here is how I see it- Campbell GUILTY! ESD has the authority to ask a student to LEAVE for ANY reason-it happens all the time at private schools. Parents-John and Jane Doe- guilty of not paying attention to their youngest daughter and her whereabouts. They feel guilty about this and to ease their guilt sue the school which they LOVED for so many years. for millions. Jane11 will forever be damaged by these events. Joe Doe 11- needs to accept the fact that she LIED to the school, her parents, and friends and also put herself in dangerous situations as well, she had to know the consequences-10,000 text messages, sneaking around- adds up, she knew this was a bad situation and did not get help. Even though she is a victim, she needed to protect herself by getting help. The other students at ESD were affected by her presence and thus her quick exit was important to the OTHER students. ESD maybe should have "handled" the situation better but the institution is not GUILTY the sexual predator Campbell is. Her parents are not getting closure out of this lawsuit- no amount of money can repair the damage that has already be done. This lawsuit seems unfounded to me.....

**I'm just say'n** @ August 24, 2011 at [3:52 pm](#)

So very sad that ESD is putting this family through a trial. They should have protected this child. I realize they didn't knowingly put her in harms way. But it happened on their watch.

Her life is changed forever. She should have been embraced by the school. Not only did they let this family down-they let the whole ESD community down. its a great school that has been tarnished by this incident.ESD should have settled out of court and paid this family -

Let's just say...a million a year. Maybe Father Swan could help out.

**Former ESD Parent** @ August 24, 2011 at [4:50 pm](#)

Does anyone know of another LIVING Principal/Headmaster/Headmistress in Dallas who....

Has a bust of himself/herself in the Chapel or, anywhere on campus?

Has a building named after themselves?

Has a reserved parking space on campus where they park there late model foreign sports car (Mercedes) with a John Eagle dealership logo?

"...has been a member of the school's Board of Directors since its inception in 1974 and will serve throughout his lifetime?"

<http://episcopalfoundationdallas.org/bios.php>

Welcome to the world of ESD and Headmaster, Father Stephen B. Swann!

**Mom** @ August 24, 2011 at [5:04 pm](#)

This reporter is so biased. It reads more like a gossip column than an article about a court proceeding. I do not understand why the civil case would take place before the criminal case. Again, most of this occurred during the summer and I do not know how the school was supposed to know what a teacher was doing during that time. I have a child in that grade and everyone knew who the student was, she told many of the kids herself. Kids in several of the north dallas private schools knew who she was, it is a very small community. She stayed several months after it was known. It was not in her best interest to stay at the school and I don't know why the parents would possibly want her to stay in the school and how it would benefit her in any way to stay at the school. I think it would be in her best interest to get away from it, get help and try to move on with her life. Why didn't the mom listen to her older sister when she had a concern? Why in the world would she not go to the meeting with the school? Her mom was interested in suing Campbell civilly but wait, he didn't have any money so she sued the school. She wanted the paper to get the scoop? Very sad that the parents were just looking for a payday instead of what would be in the best interest of their daughter. How do you not pay any attention to what your child is doing? Where she is, who she is hanging out with? Spending the night with him? Twice? How do you not know where your child is for the night? Are you kidding me? I hope Campbell is thrown under the jail but it doesn't sound like her parents cared what she was doing. She continued to do very well in her sport after she left ESD, continued to win awards for it and got into the college of her

choice. Too bad the parents didn't try to protect her after this happened and let her move on with her life. Instead they have her named out there for several years while they try to make money out of the tragedy.

**I'm just say'n** @ August 24, 2011 at [6:43 pm](#)

So very sad that ESD is putting this family through a trial. They should have protected this child. I realize they didn't knowingly put her in harms way. But it happened on their watch.

Her life is changed forever. She should have been embraced by the school. Not only did they let this family down—they let the whole ESD community down. It is a great school that has been tarnished by this incident. ESD should have settled out of court and paid this family—Let's just say...a million a year. Maybe Father Swan could help out. The family is having to relive the nightmare and ESD Families are questioning the character that the school is modeling for their children.

**USA** @ August 24, 2011 at [6:51 pm](#)

@Mom, I'm sorry, but if the reporter seems biased to you because of the way the testimony came across, it's possible it's because the testimony comes across poorly. This is not an article about a court proceeding, but a live recounting of her observations from court as they happen. And having sat through several of the proceedings, I can tell you it is how the events in the courtroom are coming across.

Also, this case is not only about "how the school should have known" at the time the crime was being committed "over the summer," but (1) the preventive measures, if any, they took to deter the crime and reduce the possibility of such a crime going undetected, and (2) the actions they took in dismissing the student from the school after they discovered it.

I'll now inject my opinion, if ya'll don't mind, on how the case is being tried. ESD's counsel better THANK their lucky stars that they aren't getting to present evidence of the parents' bad parenting. They will now have an issue ripe for appeal (if they lose) that would have gotten them killed in front of the jury had they presented it. "Blame the victim's parents" is a terribly risky and potentially deadly tactic in a civil lawsuit. It is effectively saying, "If you had been doing your job right, you would have caught our employee doing his job wrong—by having sex with your underage daughter." Think about how that would have played.

I also can't believe the job that ESD's counsel has done in preparing their witnesses. If you're going to take a case like this to trial, get rid of pride and hubris from your witnesses and ensure they acknowledge the mistakes they made. It makes you appear human, dispenses with the "holier than thou" image that Father Swann conveyed by sticking to his guns, and makes you more likeable. "I don't recall [blah blah blah]" testimony from a CFO who can't answer a straight question with "No, I never said anything like that" is disastrous. It is a plaintiff's lawyer's dream. Who would not recall speaking with a fired teacher and telling him (or not telling him) to "bide his time" on the criminal trial to improve ESD's chances in the civil case? Who would not recall discussing the civil lawsuit with a sexual predator? How many times would a topic like that come up in the everyday affairs of the CFO of a private school such that he might "not recall it" one way or the other? Just say whether you did, whether you didn't, deal with the consequences, but come across honestly from the stand and the jury will normally cut you slack. "I don't recall" = "fill in the blanks on the verdict form with \$\$\$."

None of this is to judge whether ESD is liable or should be liable for what happened. To those, however, who claim the parents are just in this for a payday (such a ridiculous comment to any who have ever been involved in trying cases and seeing the enormous toll it takes on the parties), I really hope you ask yourself whether there is any amount of money that could compel you to put your daughter's statutory rape details into the public record and onto the witness stand. That's a knee-jerk reaction to me based on a "lawsuits are all about the money" mentality.

Finally, I know there are those who are holding out hope that ESD "will get to tell its side of the story" after the plaintiffs rest. The problem is, Charla Aldous is calling ESD employees adversely, on CROSS-EXAMINATION, during her case-in-chief. ESD then has the opportunity to (1) conduct DIRECT examination of their witnesses (Swann, Burrow, etc.) immediately thereafter, or (2) reserve questioning on direct and re-call the witness during their defense case. ESD has chosen to question its witnesses immediately after cross (which is the norm, since the hope is to take the sting out of what the jury heard on cross by the plaintiff). That means that ESD's story, to the extent it is coming through all the active players, has largely been told already. Father Swann won't be getting back on the stand to tell ESD's side, nor will Burrow, nor will any other administrator who has already testified.

If ESD hopes to convince the jury that it is in the right (which it may have done already, who knows), the ship has long since sailed. Again, this goes to how the case is being tried, and in that regard, Charla Aldous appears to have the upper hand.

**Avid Reader** @ August 24, 2011 at [6:52 pm](#)

Claire is doing a very good job of reporting. She is a reporter and can't make up facts to make the truth of what she is seeing more "fair" or "even".

Obviously everyone is free to keep spouting off the exact same angry points they have on the previous 14+ threads that do nothing to convince others with competing view points; just leave the reporter bashing out.

**I'm just say'n** @ August 24, 2011 at [6:58 pm](#)

Really? You see no liability? No problem with the way this child was handled? Have you stopped to think about -What if this was your child? Just for a second-Put yourself in this families place. The reality is .. This girl was raped by a teacher employed by the school, the school showed this family no compassion, Fathers Swann testified that he had no idea it was a felony for a teacher to have "relations" with a student. Does that sound like a school that is competent ? Really?

**Interested DAD** @ August 24, 2011 at [7:21 pm](#)

Mom- I have to ask, Do you have a son or daughter or both? Wait, doesn't matter! Lets assume for a moment your son had sex with a male teacher at the school, Not Necessarily ESD, he had been groomed by this scum Nathan Campbell, and he was a great athlete, and let's say they had a tryst in the back seat of a suburban, you would blame yourself? Did you know where your son was? Who was he hanging out with? Before you go and cast dispersions maybe you should walk in the shoes of that parent. Sick scum like Campbell feed on the weak, it is called a M.O. or grooming.

The reason the civil is happening before the criminal is the SCUM keeps pushing it back even though he has admitted his guilt.

As for Claire, she is doing the community a favor, where is Dallas Morning News, WFAA? Who is keeping(Paying) or manipulating the strings to the puppet(Press)? Shut your Pie Hole. If it was your son or daughter, you would be irate and most father's would have been looking for the SCUM, delivering some payback in a most prejudice of ways.

Maybe your husband would, but my guess is he has to check with you first.

As for the Mother of JDII letting the paper know, maybe she knows of other cases at ESD being swept under the rug and the only way for her daughter to have case heard was to play the media card, which isn't a whole lot.

So before you go to bed tonight, call your kids if they are at college or in high school and find out where they are? I hope you can trust them with where they are. You telling me you sleep through the night, all night, and every night with your children being in this cruel world. I don't and my guess is you don't either because you are a parent and if you don't it is because you don't care. Which is it?

I hope you are never a victim of a sexual crime, because God forbid they would drag you and your family through the mud to save money!

**CA** @ August 24, 2011 at [7:30 pm](#)

@Mom

How is the reporters column biased? If you were at court today and can tell us that the reporter is misstating or eliminating relevant portions of the proceedings, please do so. However, I doubt that is the case and I think the reporter is doing a fine job in presenting a story that clearly many people are interested in.

**Bystander** @ August 24, 2011 at [7:39 pm](#)

@episcopal parent @ August 24, 2011 at 2:18 pm

Thanks for the input.

It definitely seems like Salz is flaky and Burrow is sleazy.

**episcopalian** @ August 24, 2011 at [7:54 pm](#)

@former ESD Parent, he is driving a Porsche Panamara now. He was making it quite difficult to be true to my religion until it came out that his school is NOT a part of our diocese. Thank you to whoever brought that to light.

**EagleParent** @ August 24, 2011 at [8:25 pm](#)

@Former ESD Patent– I am so happy you are not a part of the ESD community anymore. Have you visited the campus lately? Seen the Wellness Center, the Frank Building, the Chapel? Have you looked on the ESD website and seen where the graduates from the last 5 years have attended college? Father Swann has built an incredible school and I am so offended by your comments. This situation has also happened at the two other all female schools– are you as hostile to them? Nathan Campbell is a predator and could have been at any school in our community. Have a little empathy!

**HMills** @ August 24, 2011 at [8:50 pm](#)

Frankly, I don't understand the attitude of those who are so sure that this girl — a victim of a crime — needed to be dismissed from the school because she was an object of gossip and scorn by her classmates. I had assumed that ESD was a Christian school, committed to a Christian education. I would have thought that it was a golden moment for the staff to teach the other students lessons in Christian virtues – not gossiping, not judging, treating others as you would want to be treated. And as to whether the girl would have been better off elsewhere, she wasn't just any student causing a disruption. She was conned by one of the school's teachers, a victim of a crime committed by a member of the school's staff. Whether she was better off was a decision to be made jointly by the girl, her family and ESD. Not by ESD alone, and certainly not by other students driving her out.

**parent of 2 teens** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:12 pm](#)

Mom

You make my head hurt reading your “diatribe”. Somehow I don't believe you are a mom.

Someday you may have a son or daughter and hopefully you'll have more empathy for their friend that was violated by a teacher and not supported by their “Christian School”.

If you really are a “mom” I feel very sorry for your children.

**Former ESD Parent** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:21 pm](#)

@EagleParent – I have no problem with the level of education my child received at ESD. The teachers challenged my child; the educational experience is top tier. That is NOT what I questioned. However, the flamboyant, egocentric and dysfunctional leadership style of the Headmaster IS disturbing.

Yes, I have visited the campus, even donated to the school. Yes, my child graduated in the last five years in the top 10 of the class. You made my point for me – if Steve Swann had spent more time running the school instead of fundraising most of the time, this may have been handled differently. Are you not at all alarmed by his lack of involvement in meeting with the family, delegating the withdrawal strategy, his not wanting to get his hands “dirty” in this whole matter?! Please remove your rose colored glasses! I challenge you to point out ONE example of compassion exhibited by Steve Swann in this matter, besides his “I offered to pray for them” statement. He delegated the “dirty work” of kicking out the student to Royall and Mayo! Such compassion from a member of the clergy.

**Trialwatcher2** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:27 pm](#)

After sitting through much of today's testimony I must say that Burrow appeared to be Aldous' toughest challenge to date defending ESD pretty effectively and professionally.

He testified that he is no longer serving in the C.F.O. role but is still working with the school on some kind of consulting basis after leaving earlier this year – apparently by his choice. Sounds like he bailed at a wise time!

Aldous backed off on several occasions when Burrow presented convincing counters to her fishing expedition of wrongdoing not discovered by E.S.D. For example, Campbell charged two beers to an E.S.D. credit card at a dinner in Austin when he attended an educational conference. And this is supposed to indicate that Campbell is a sexual predator that the school should have detected?

On another issue Burrow stated that he couldn't explain why Campbell violated school policy. Growing a bit testy after aggressive questioning from Aldous, Burrow finally has enough. “There's nothing about this guy that I can explain. His behavior was reprehensible. I cannot explain his thinking, actions or behavior in any way.”

And ESD's tax exempt status? Aldous states that the Bishop of Dallas is on video providing his opinion on ESD's tax exempt status. Burrow states that ESD depends on it's own tax and legal counsel and the IRS to render opinions on its 501–C3 status and related filings. Duh!

And the mystery surrounding Burrow's conversations with Campbell? Burrow sounds like he's trying to avoid a trap set by Aldous. He testified that there were numerous financial transactions to unwind related to the Global Studies Center after Campbell resigned and was terminated which involved several

conversations. He denied any effort to influence Campbell in any way. Burrow also testified that he forced a confession from Campbell in an interrogation off campus. Rumor is a Dallas tactical officer assisted. Burrow further testified that he has agreed to testify at Campbell's criminal trial. Apparently the confession has supported Campbell's two criminal indictments. The presiding judge has barred any discussion of allegations which Aldous presented in November against Burrow, according to court documents. Word in the courthouse is the allegations were dismissed last year and constitute yet another example of harassment by Aldous. Also of note and interest - ESD's attorneys are not advising Burrow. He is represented by his own counsel, a highly regarded former District Judge who appears to know his way around the courthouse. This was a much better day for ESD. Let's hope the strong defense continues,

**Interested DAD** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:27 pm](#)

EagleParent- Regarding the other female schools, Did these schools allow the teacher to stay until he or she resigned? Did the other schools treat the victim like Hester Prynne, a w\*\*\*e, a slut? Did the other schools run the parents into the ground as being bad parents? Sounds like the other females schools handled it correctly because it isn't on trial because the Parents and the child were not re victimized by the school and the school admitted a wrong was done.

Justice is a b\*\*ch isn't it? Did Ursuline, as a "Christian School" treat the female child as a w\*\*\*e or a slut? Doubtful. Be careful about worshipping a false god, it is a sin especially when driving a Porsche and have a bust of himself up. Beware of the wolf dressed in sheep's clothing. EagleParent have a little intelligence!

**Kikko452** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:31 pm](#)

Try as they might...

Esd can't keep their stories ( e.g. Lies) straight.

**EagleParent** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:31 pm](#)

Claire- I pressed publish before I corrected- can I re- write my blog?

**Claire St. Amant** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:34 pm](#)

@EagleParent Go for it. I left the comment pending so I'll just delete it when you write a new one.

**Interested DAD** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:36 pm](#)

EagleParent you say Nathan Campbell (SCUM) the predator, (You should have stopped right there) could have been at any school in our community. You are right, unfortunately, yes you are right. Kids also urinate & defecate in pools, does it make alright, and do you not as an adult try to stop it from happening again? Remind me not to go swimming in your pool, because it is full of, well you know!

**Interested DAD** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:43 pm](#)

Claire St Amant- With that last one you deserve a cocktail!

**parent of 2 teens** @ August 24, 2011 at [9:46 pm](#)

This has to be the most interesting event in the history of "Preston Hollow People". Are the other news organizations not interested in such a volatile topic? Dallas Morning News had a few comments about it but I haven't seen anything from TV 4,5,8 or 11. Maybe PHP can raise their advertising rates.

**Sodas** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:00 pm](#)

@Interested Dad you made a great point. I have two teenagers and have found that most the time they do not tell you where they are or what they are really doing. They are drinking or maybe not always in the presence of people you like. Most of us parents who look at our teenage years were like that. Parents hope and pray for the best. It amazes me when I go out with some of my friends who choose to believe their children who I personally know and know that their children are lying to. Most of the teenagers at the private schools are drinking and carousing. These ESD parents who act like they know everything their child is

doing and texting are full of it or chose not to accept the truth. Teenagers do not think things through and that is why there are laws to protect them. Mom, you cannot be a mom of teenagers or you are lucky to have one of the few teenagers who does not lie and lives to please their parents.

**Eagle Parent** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:01 pm](#)

@Interested Dad- A mother from Ursuline told me that the girls in the class were told to sign a statement saying that they would never discuss what happened. Since I never had a child attend Ursuline I'm not sure how the school approached the situation, but maybe it will give you some satisfaction to do your own fact finding on what both happened at Ursuline and Hockaday.

I am a huge supporter of ESD and do not think that I am worshipping a "false god". All my children started there at the age of three and continued until graduation. My child was in Jane Doe 2's class. This blog is getting boring with all the bashing of ESD or hashing over the same details. If "Interested Dad" or anyone else is interested why not go and take a tour of ESD? Go see the nurturing lower school, visit the library, go to the daily chapel. Go to a sporting event, attend a play or musical production Go to the website and read about the amount of community service hours ESD students contribute and where the students from the last five years have gone to college. Pick up a copy of The Eagle Edition or The Itinerary. They both win national awards each year.

An ESD family had the bust done of Father Swann as a contribution. He did not name the Wellness Center after himself. Major donors asked that it be named for him. Does it really matter what kind of car that he drives? i drive an expensive car and you probably do too...Seriously!

**Eagle Parent** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:05 pm](#)

Thank God Interested Dad does not have children at ESD! Maybe you should work on your language. I hope you don't talk to your children like you blog.

**Skeptical** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:21 pm](#)

I was kind of amusing that Burrow couldn't remember \*anything\* about what he did or did not say to Campbell in the weeks following his (Burrow's) deposition, but remembered the receipts Aldous presented \*at\* his deposition. Can't remember, Can remember, can't remember...

**Eagle Parent** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:28 pm](#)

@Former ESD Parent- Yes, I agree with you that Father Swann has been too busy fundraising for the past couple of years and was not as involved as he should have been in Jane Doe 2's dismissal. I am not alarmed about this because I don't think the results would have been any different if he had been involved. Her parents should have removed her immediately, but since she was lying to them, I don't think the parents or the school knew what they were dealing with. I'm not sure about his compassion with the Doe family. The best thing that happened for Jane Doe2 was to leave and start over.

**Amazed Observer** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:29 pm](#)

@Interested DAD . .are you really a Dad? Your comments to MOM and EagleParent were really rude and you definitely need to clean up your language. Everyone is entitled to voice his/her opinions regarding this case and no one deserves to be personally insulted for doing so. Ever considered anger management classes?

**Seriously, folks** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:33 pm](#)

I see this case as being similar to a murder-for-hire case. ESD did not do the actual predatory actions, but they sure gave the predator all the tools he needed. ESD gave Campbell credit cards, vehicle, phone, and an uneducated faculty. What more could a predator ask for???

**Amazed Observer** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:36 pm](#)

@Trailwatcher2 - thank you for sharing your observations of today's testimony. It was detailed and very informative! Great Job!

**SoapOperaFan** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:38 pm](#)

Whoa! Stop and take a breath,folks. Why the rush to judgement when we don't have all the facts? And just for the sake of American jurisprudence, let's DO assume that ESD has a case to make and the right to call their own witnesses. Those bemoaning the lack of true Christian spirit might remember that there are two sides to every story. Those who think they've got this all figured out may be missing a few pertinent facts. There clearly will not be any winners in this case regardless of the jury verdict. So let's remember "innocent until proven guilty" and tone down the anger and vitriol.

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**parent of 2 teens** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:51 pm](#)

Eagle Parent,

My kids don't attend ESD, but do attend another private school in Dallas.

"This blog is getting boring with all the bashing of ESD or hashing over the same details." – your comment – not mine.

Realty is, one of your own (Campbell), sexually assaulted a student and your school is trying to absolve themselves of any mis-conduct in the case. If your administration had any ability to recognize their own mal-feasance in the situation – you (ESD) probably wouldn't be in court right now.

I'd go on about your comments about "Interested Dad" but I'm sure he'll take care of it himself.

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**Peter** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:56 pm](#)

@Eagle Parent–Well said!

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**just gotta say** @ August 24, 2011 at [10:57 pm](#)

ESD needed to protect Jane Doe II by dismissing her. What she did is social suicide at any school– especially one like ESD or any of the private schools here in Dallas. It was the right thing to do for her health. What sick parent would subject their daughter to what could have been total social isolation and gossip?

In addition, ESD had a responsibility to the other 1000 students whose parents pay for their children to be in a moral educational environment without the distractions that Jane Doe II and her situation caused around the school.

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**Nancy** @ August 25, 2011 at [12:00 am](#)

This blog has gone crazy. Must have been another bad day for the plaintiff's

Mom@ has it right and the biggest victim in the whole thing is the school. IMO.

I can't get over the Doe mom. She said she saw Campbell "every other day" through out the summer? I can't believe the jury won't get to hear that. Still they have heard plenty. No way these greedy, bad parents get a dime.

Pretty funny that the plaintiff attorneys are are talking about settlements on this blog. I guess they hoped they would never try this case. LOL

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**amanda** @ August 25, 2011 at [5:27 am](#)

The CFO testimony might have been the "smart" thing for him to do (CYA), and even helpful for the school, but it's slimy to say, "I don't recall..." At the start of this, I couldn't imagine HOW this happened. But, it's becoming clear. It was a perfect storm of this particular criminal, this girl, this family at this school with this faculty, and this culture.

I find it off-putting to have ESD supporters saying, "but it happened at other schools, too!" Yes...but do two (or three) wrongs make it okay? The other schools obviously handled the students, family, and situation better. It would be interesting to compare HOW the other schools have set up policies, "security," and training based on a previous situation. Having said that, no amount of protocol can deter a predator who is hunting for a victim.

And, thanks to the comments that give a more legal minded procedural analysis. It's very helpful for us "normal" people. Can y'all shed some light on how a jury of "average" people (in general) react to the "I don't recall" explanation? I can't imagine that it's warmly received.

I'm sure the wellness center is nice. Wow.

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**VM** @ August 25, 2011 at [6:54 am](#)

FYI...no Episcopal schools are part of the Episcopal Diocese.

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**Avid Reader** @ August 25, 2011 at [8:05 am](#)

Random side question (I know, I shouldn't waste space asking about the trial and should just write the usual talking points of one side or the other, but, I digress), that maybe I missed. Was Tolly Salz deposed and called to the stand because of general conversations she had or heard? Was she an

advisor/administrator of some sort involved with the investigation or expulsion?

**Claire St. Amant** @ August 25, 2011 at [8:33 am](#)

@Avid Reader, it's my understanding that Tolly Salz was called as a witness because of the conversations she had with Erin Mayo and other teachers/admins concerning Jane Doe II. I do not think she was involved at all in the investigation/expulsion as she is just a regular teacher and not an admin.

**HMills** @ August 25, 2011 at [9:18 am](#)

"Why the rush to judgement when we don't have all the facts?"

Many of the facts aren't in dispute. What's in dispute is the legal consequences of those facts. In any event, legal liability is one thing, moral responsibility quite another. Plenty of acts that do not rise to criminal conduct or give rise to legal liability still ought not to be done. Treating a crime victim as if she were Hester Prynne, for instance, IMO.

My opinion again, but it seems some people are more concerned that ESD is losing a little of its glow and they the reflected pride and social status they feel reflecting in its glow than they are concerned with lovingly responding to one of their own families in crisis.

**amanda** @ August 25, 2011 at [9:39 am](#)

@HMills...ALWAYS nails it.

@Nancy, you have said several times that some of the comments are coming from the victim's attorney(s)? Proof? Examples? Otherwise, don't make unfounded accusations on a blog.

**Former ESD Mother** @ August 25, 2011 at [10:12 am](#)

I think most people would agree that ESD is and has been a fine place to receive an education. Their facility is outstanding. They have great teachers. Their kids go to some of the top colleges. I would not dispute any of that, but unfortunately none of it has any relevance to this trial. Mistakes were made at a beautiful campus and now they are in court.

I would also add that ESD will go on, despite this trial, and continue to attract more applicants than spots available. Their kids will still get a fine education and go on to colleges of their choice. My only hope is that some things will change in their policies and procedures. Someone a while back said ESD will not miss a beat. I hope it does, and I hope some valuable lessons are learned and changes made.

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