

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 15 UPDATED

While we've heard about Erin Mayo practically more than anyone besides Jane Doe II and Nathan Campbell, she hasn't spoken for herself yet. That's scheduled to change this a.m., as Mayo will be called to the witness stand.

What do you bet we'll get another look at that "sad story" email?

UPDATE 1:15 p.m.

We got a late start today, so there isn't as much testimony to share as usual. But here's what I've got.

11:45 a.m.

Erin Mayo, head of the upper school, takes the stand and Charla Aldous comes out swinging.

“You believe that the situation with Nathan Campbell and Jane Doe II was handled appropriately in all manners?” Aldous asks.

“Yes,” Mayo says, adding that even with the benefit of hindsight she “wouldn’t change a thing.”

11:55 a.m.

Mayo says she “absolutely” understood why Jane was upset about teachers gossiping about her possible involvement with Campbell’s departure.

“She expressed she didn’t want people to know [it had been her who’d slept with Campbell],” Mayo says.

Noon

“It’s your testimony that Susan Weil directly heard Jane solicit children to go look and see if Sara Campbell was wearing her wedding ring?” Aldous asks.

“That’s what I understood at the time,” Mayo says. “I’ve learned since then that I misunderstood Ms. Weil.”

Mayo clarifies, adding that Weil didn’t actually hear Jane say anything about a wedding ring but instead heard the information second-hand from students.

Aldous asks Mayo if the “wedding ring incident” was the “culminating catalyst” in the decision to expel Jane.

“That’s correct,” Mayo says.

Aldous asks Mayo why she didn’t investigate the rumor to find out if it was true before beginning conversations to expel Jane.

“I was confident it had happened,” she says. “I have since discovered my error.”

12:05 p.m.

Mayo says she can’t be certain that her opinion that Jane needed to leave the school would have changed if she had known at the time that Weil hadn’t directly heard Jane ask students check on Mrs. Campbell.

Mayo says no one at ESD ever approached Jane about the “wedding ring incident” or other allegations that she was “failing to respect boundaries” before deciding she could no longer attend the school.

12:10 p.m.

Mayo says it crossed her mind that the decision to expel Jane might cause her “further harm.”

Aldous shows that in her deposition, Mayo actually said it hadn’t.

“But you knew it was a life-altering decision, did you not?” Aldous asks.

Mayo says yes.

12:15 p.m.

Mayo describes John Doe’s withdrawal of his daughter as “voluntary.”

John and Jane Doe, who are in the courtroom, bristle at this statement.

“But if he didn’t withdraw her, you were going to expel her?” Aldous asks.

“Yes,” Mayo says.

“This child was being expelled because of the consequences of one of your teachers sexually abusing her, was she not?”

“No,” Mayo says.

Aldous asks her if she’s saying that Campbell’s abuse didn’t create the environment in which rumors circulated and led to Jane’s removal from the school.

“If there’d been no abuse, there’d be no rumors, correct,” Mayo says.

“So the underlying event was Nathan Campbell sexually abusing her?” Aldous asks.

“Our decision was not a direct result of Nathan Campbell’s action with Jane Doe II,” Mayo says.

12:20 p.m.

Aldous asks if teachers should “err on the side of caution” regarding reporting inappropriate student/teacher interaction.

“It depends,” Mayo says.

“Teachers at ESD should know to report if a child makes them uncomfortable, shouldn’t they?” Aldous asks.

“Not necessarily,” Mayo says.

Aldous shows that once again, this answer contradicts Mayo’s deposition testimony.

12:25 p.m.

Mayo says that the notes by Dr. Andy McGarrahan dated 1/29/10, two days after Jane's forced withdrawal, contain "inaccuracies" and "compress a lot of information."

Mayo says that Marc Salz, who has Jane's advisor her sophomore year and shared an office with Campbell, came to her on Jan. 22 to report that Jane had "turned her body in a way that her breasts were touching or nearly touching him" in chapel last year.

Aldous asks Mayo if a student touching or nearly touching a teacher with her breasts should be reported immediately.

Mayo hesitates and then says, "If it was intentional, it should be reported immediately."

In McGarrahan's report, it stated Salz's wife believed the touching had been done intentionally for her to see.

Mayo says Jane's flirting with faculty "was not outside the norm of teenage behavior."

12:30 p.m.

On Jane's last day at ESD, Mayo told her "Have a good trip" as she left her English class.

"And you knew she'd never be returning to ESD again, didn't you?" Aldous asks.

"Not as a student, yes," Mayo says, adding she said a silent prayer for Jane's wellbeing that day as well.

The next time Mayo saw Jane was at her deposition, which Mayo observed.

Aldous asks Mayo if she ever doubted that she did the right thing as she watched Jane give her emotional deposition.

"It was painful to watch her, but I had no doubt," she says.

12:35 p.m.

"If this happens to another student at ESD, you would do the exact same thing?" Aldous asks.

"If it's under the exact same circumstances, yes," Mayo says.

Aldous asks Mayo if the decision to expel Jane was really "in her best interest."

Mayo says that it was.

"The truth is you didn't want her haunting the halls with her sad story the rest of the week, isn't it?" Aldous asks.

“Those were my words,” Mayo says. “I regret writing them. They don’t represent my feelings about Jane at all.”

Pass witness.

12:40 p.m.

Chrysta Castaneda is leading the cross-examination for ESD.

Mayo says she spends a lot of time “reacting” in her role as head of the upper school. She also says she likes her job “more often than not.”

Mayo says she did not personally hire Nathan Campbell, who joined the faculty in 2004. (Mayo started at ESD in 2007.)

12:45 p.m.

Castaneda shows Campbell’s background check, which was completed on 8/11/04, came back clean. She also shows his employment history and references were checked. Before coming to ESD, Campbell worked at the McFaddin-Ward House, a museum in Beaumont, and at the history department at the University of Kentucky.

One of Campbell’s references described him as having “an engaging personality” and said, “Nathan wears well.”

Another reference stated: “Nathan will be a tremendous asset anywhere he goes.”

12:50 p.m.

Castaneda goes through the ESD employee handbook, pointing out various rules and regulations, including the requirement that all employees participate in daily worship and monthly eucharist.

She instructs Mayo to read a sentence stating “all relationships between faculty and students are to be strictly professional.”

Mayo confirms that Campbell signed an employee contract stating he would follow all school rules.

1 p.m.

“Do you, from time to time, have to act in the best interest of a student even if the student doesn’t know you are doing so?” Castaneda asks.

“Yes,” Mayo says.

Lunch recess until 2:30 p.m.

2:40 p.m.

Castaneda reads from the employee handbook that consuming alcohol on school property or on a school trip is grounds for termination.

She asks Mayo if she considered Campbell's purchase of two beers on two separate occasions to be a violation of this policy.

Mayo says no, because it wasn't "an excessive purchase" or done in the presence of students.

2:45 p.m.

Castaneda shows Campbell's employment contracts from the year he was hired, 2004 through the 2008-2009 school year. He got a raise every year, and was making \$50,000 the year he began a sexual relationship with a student.

Mayo describes Campbell as "very appealing classroom teacher and lecturer."

"He was very celebrated for that," Mayo says, adding that he was also a very harsh grader and was reprimanded for it.

2:50 p.m.

Castaneda shows a note from Campbell's personnel file that a student complained he "talks bad about the French," is "disrespectful," and "the pace of the class is too fast."

Mayo sent Campbell an email about this and other student complaints in August of 2009, opening with the statement "The context for this email is that I am your Number One Fan."

"It was an exaggeration that I tossed in there before delivering a message I knew he would not like," Mayo says, explaining it was her professional habit to open difficult conversations with a compliment.

3 p.m.

Campbell wrote Mayo back at 10:30 p.m. that night, saying "Any chance I get to improve my teaching, I am all for," and that he recognized he "demanded quite a bit" from his students. He also said he "had a Darth Vader rep."

In Mayo's reply to this email, she addressed Campbell as "Darth" and told him "Your students already do have an excellent teacher."

3:05 p.m.

Castaneda reads a letter that Mayo wrote to the Upper School students and parents. In it, she said "Students are expected to balance their needs with the overall goal of the school community."

3:10 p.m.

Castaneda moves on to the Honor Code, which states students will not lie, cheat, or steal. While Mayo says the code primarily comes up in terms of academics, it also applies to all aspects of school life.

"Could ESD have decided to expel Jane as a result of an honor code violation?" Castaneda asks.

“We could have,” Mayo says, adding that they chose not to because Jane’s expulsion was not “a disciplinary response.”

3:15 p.m.

Mayo says that Jane’s “learning difference accommodations” allowed her access to teachers outside of regular classroom hours. Mayo says that as Jane’s English teacher, she communicated with her by emails late at night “many times.”

3:25 p.m.

Castaneda references ESD’s health curriculum, noting that sex education courses are taught in middle and upper school.

“Do you teach your students to recognize sexually inappropriate behavior from adults?” Castaneda asks.

“I believe it’s an aspect of the sexual harassment training,” Mayo says.

Aldous objects, saying “Unless they’re going to say Jane was merely sexually harassed by Nathan Campbell, this has no relevance.”

Benson sustains the objection and the jury is instructed to disregard that portion of testimony.

3:30 p.m.

Castaneda & Co. now begin a painfully slow retelling of events from Nov. 30, 2009 to Jan. 27, 2010. It takes two and a half hours and a portion of my soul.

Here are the items worth mentioning:

Mayo says she checked Campbell’s and Jane Doe II’s ESD email accounts on Nov. 30 after hearing about the incident with the Farmers Branch police and finds zero contact between the two.

Campbell described his decision to meet Jane in an abandoned parking lot to Rebecca Royall thusly, “with good intentions, I made a bad call in judgement.”

When Jane was called in to meet with Royall and Mayo, she asked “Is Mr. Campbell in trouble? Because he was just trying to help me.”

Mayo says she thought “a number of the details were implausible” in Campbell and Jane’s story about why they had met after hours in a parking lot.

“It’s not something that logical people would do,” Mayo says, adding that her concern grew when “their stories matched so exactly. It suggested planning.”

Mayo says around 9 p.m. on Nov. 30, she went to the parking lot described in the police report to see it for herself. She noted it was “a very secluded area” and called Royall from the scene.

The next day around 11 a.m. on Dec. 1, Mayo, Royall, and Stephen Swann met with Campbell, who was “very shakey and apologetic.”

“He said he’d learned from his mistake and that it had been ‘stupid to put everything on the line like that on an impulse,’” Mayo says, adding that Swann told him his employment was in question.

By 1:45 p.m., Campbell had tendered his resignation, stating in the letter:

“I accept responsibility for my actions and assume any blame that this incident has caused the Episcopal School of Dallas.”

He also offered his “heartfelt apologies.”

“Our fear was, the piece we did not have yet was that they’d had a sexual relationship,” Mayo says.

Mayo says Campbell was allowed to teach his last class of the day because “he wasn’t an imminent danger or threat” to anyone in that class, they didn’t have anyone else available, and lastly because Campbell said he needed to prep his students for a test the next day.

Mayo called an emergency faculty meeting for 7:45 a.m. the next day and broke the news of Campbell’s resignation. She says there was a “visible and audible reaction.”

“We know the shock of our students will be about 10x what it is here,” Mayo recalled telling faculty at the time.

She also says she was “very emphatic” that no one was to speculate as to why he’d left so abruptly. She assured everyone he was in good health as was his family.

Describing her meeting with Jane and her parents on Dec. 3, Mayo says that while she and Royall said the purpose of that meeting wasn’t to remove Jane from the school, it wasn’t off the table either.

“We didn’t make any kind of unequivocal promise that we’d let her stay through graduation,” Mayo says.

Between Nov. 30 and Dec. 4, Mayo says she contacted the Doe family 10 times.

Mayo describes Jane as “resilient.”

6 p.m.

Regarding the “wedding ring incident,” Mayo says, “I was so hoping it wasn’t true, because we so wanted her to stay.”

Mayo says the incident proved Jane was “a long and indefinite way from closure.”

Court is in recess until Monday.

80 comments to "ESD Trial, Day 15 UPDATED"

Avid Reader @ August 25, 2011 at [9:27 am](#)

Is there an Erin Mayo deposition in the court document filings?

Claire St. Amant @ August 25, 2011 at [9:40 am](#)

@Avid Reader No depositions are in the court document filings because they're under a protective order.

Bulldogmom @ August 25, 2011 at [9:46 am](#)

To date I have been underwhelmed by the compassion extended to the victim. The ESD board has circled the wagons because their investment both financially and perhaps more importantly, socially is huge. It is no small thing to the ESD parent community that their facade is crumbling. Any corporation or government official with any character would have stepped down or retired for the good of the organization. If it was really in the "best interest of the true victim in this case to be removed from the school why would the same logic not apply to those in leadership positions. The amnesia of the CFO in yesterday's testimony was laughable. Fr.Swann's testimony was appalling. Mayo's today should be a real piece of work. Maybe those deep pockets at ESD should get serious about some outside PR damage control professionals. The lack of hubris demonstrated so publically is chilling.

Former ESD Parent @ August 25, 2011 at [9:55 am](#)

"Sad story" email? Where do I find this?

Claire St. Amant @ August 25, 2011 at [10:24 am](#)

@Former ESD Parent, I believe the first time that email is mentioned is on the Day 4 post. You can do a search for it or click on my name to find all the posts I've written.

Bulldogmom @ August 25, 2011 at [11:06 am](#)

To date I have been underwhelmed by the compassion extended to the victim. The ESD board has circled the wagons because their investment both financially and perhaps more importantly, socially is huge. It is no small thing to the ESD parent community that their facade is crumbling. Any corporation or government official with any character would have stepped down or retired for the good of the organization. If it was really in the "best interest" of the true victim in this case to be removed from the school, why would the same logic not apply to those in leadership positions? The amnesia of the CFO in yesterday's testimony was laughable. Fr.Swann's testimony illuminated his ineptness and isolation as an educator. Mayo's testimony today should be a real piece of work. Maybe those deep pockets at ESD should get serious about some outside PR damage control professionals. The lack of hubris of the administrators demonstrated so publically is chilling. Still waiting for some empathy and accountability to kick in.... Those folks need to settle and shut this thing down.

Retired Teacher @ August 25, 2011 at [12:54 pm](#)

Bulldogmom,

If someone was attacking you with a 10 million dollar law suit, would you not circle the wagons? I think every private school in Dallas would be doing exactly what ESD is doing in similar circumstances.

I can't speak directly to ESD's Head / trustee structure, but in the schools that I am familiar with, the Head serves at the pleasure of the board of trustees. One of the top priorities of an independent school head is to raise funds, not get entwined in the daily operations. These schools can run on their own extremely well with little input from the Head if there is a good management structure in place. With that said, Heads don't step down unless the Board demands it.

However, the spirit of the institution is related directly the school head and his/her inspiration and leadership style, and at ESD, it seems as though the spirit of the institution is still strong given this unfortunate situation. On the other hand, this may not be the case once this suit has concluded.

Testimony appears to be shaky, but when lawyers are driving the show, the games begin and to most of us watching from the sideline, it looks pretty strange. I too wish everyone would just lay their cards on the table with no BS or evasive testimony, but when you spend big money for legal advice, you usually play the game the way they dictate.

Someone Who Knows @ August 25, 2011 at [1:04 pm](#)

I know Erin Mayo. She only inflames a volatile problem. And to be sure, she is an English teacher so she knows how to choose her words, yet she always chooses the incendiary, caustic words - like "haunting" and "sad story." Justice and karma always seem to even out, don't you think?

Avid Reader @ August 25, 2011 at [1:33 pm](#)

Yes, most, if not all, private schools would be circling the wagons....at this point.

However, most, if not all, private schools would not have handled the situation so poorly that it got to this point.

Curious @ August 25, 2011 at [1:34 pm](#)

Claire -

Can you tell us things about the jury? Like, are they taking notes, do they show any emotions, do they wince when someone says "I do not recall," etc.

HMills @ August 25, 2011 at [1:38 pm](#)

"These schools can run on their own extremely well with little input from the Head if there is a good management structure in place."

Except in this case it didn't run extremely well. It ran extremely poorly in many ways. Teachers who skipped training. Teachers who were able to use school property for their personal - and criminal - purposes. Teachers who confronted the student even though they were explicitly directed not to discuss it. Administrators who didn't demand even elementary accountability.

I would say the headmaster and the board have a lot of soulsearching to do.

experiencedbystander @ August 25, 2011 at [2:12 pm](#)

Why is it that none of you all find it suspect that not one student/teen that knew her has come to her defense even once on her? You can't tell me that the ESD admissions staff is so good that they are able to only pick out hundreds of cold-hearted people. Sure the whole pride thing for your school could be a factor, more so for the parents because of their investments, but if this happened to that I loved and cared about, I could care less about how the school looked, if I believed that person was wronged, I would be shouting it from the rooftops. We can't say ESD is perfect as their mistakes have come to light, you just cannot tell me that they would ring this girl out to dry just as a cover-up, there are good people who work there, if you refuse to believe that, you're crazy. Sure they didn't want this to turn into a circus but what private school would? Both parties have their problems, so one side should not take all the blame for this unfortunate situation.

Bystander @ August 25, 2011 at [2:19 pm](#)

Oh my! If this testimony is not a heads-up for all of you ESD parents, I don't know what is! She testified that she would not change a thing (assuming this also includes the "haunting" email) and she will do it again to another student. Good luck on all that Christian education and spiritual leadership!

Former ESD Teacher @ August 25, 2011 at [2:19 pm](#)

Having spent many years as a teacher at ESD, I am quite disturbed by all the gory details that are being published on this blog about the relationship between Jane Doe II and Nathan Campbell, neither of whom was at the school when I was there. There seem to be strong indications that the teacher, the student, AND the parents were culpable. The court will decide if ESD was negligent. If so, they will pay. At what cost to the girl? Are the parents "protecting" her by having these things brought out for public titillation? Are they selling her for \$10 million? Are they trying to destroy the reputation of a school that has educated many students over the years in a caring, supportive environment?

I would like to speak out on behalf of all the good things that happen at ESD on a daily basis, in and out of the classrooms. I have personally experienced many instances in which the ESD "family" reached out to individuals and families in crisis. The advisory and counseling systems, and caring, professional teachers are readily available to anyone who wants or needs help. If this girl were uncomfortable or unhappy in her relationship with a teacher, she had ample opportunities to go privately to other adults at ESD, assuming she did not have the kind of relationship with her parents such that she could talk to them. It was not until she got caught that she and her parents started casting blame.

ESD has a philosophy of viewing all students as being made in God's image. None of us wants to think that any ESD student (made in God's image) or any ESD teacher (presumably made in God's image) would behave as they did. Yet, they did. Nobody is perfect.

"Let he who is without sin cast the first stone."

Interested DAD @ August 25, 2011 at [2:21 pm](#)

1st to Eagle Parent—"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" obviously the mother and daughter from Ursuline didn't heed the warning that was given, of having to sign the statement, and the daughter discusses with Mom and Mom discusses it with you.

Amazed Observer- sorry your virgin ears were hurt. And yes, I have considered anger management, and I am on step 2, "why do you get angry?" Own the problem!

Answer: Ridiculous comments

hard to believe @ August 25, 2011 at [2:28 pm](#)

I agree with HMills @ August 25, 2011 at 1:38 pm in stating:"I would say the headmaster and the board have a lot of soulsearching to do."

In the case of the headmaster and other administrators, if they are to begin soul-searching, I hope they are first able to find them... their souls that is.

Hold the Mayo @ August 25, 2011 at [2:28 pm](#)

@Someone Who Knows @ August 25, 2011 at 1:04 pm

I totally agree with you! But what can you expect from "the number one fan" of Campbell?

Excuse me? @ August 25, 2011 at [2:37 pm](#)

There are ESD students who support the victim. They may not in front of their bats**t parents, but she does have supporters. And gee, idk...maybe if you're an employee, and Mayo is your boss, the ESD family doesn't like dissent.

HMills @ August 25, 2011 at [2:43 pm](#)

"There seem to be strong indications that the teacher, the student, AND the parents were culpable."

Victims of crime often put themselves in a position to be victimized, through their naivety or poor judgment. Many an elderly woman has been bilked out of their savings by the bogus roofer. We might comment "Wasn't that stupid of her? Where were her children?" But we don't blame HER. We don't blame THE CHILDREN. We don't say "so what". We feel compassion, we try to mitigate the harm, we try to make sure it doesn't happen to someone else. This girl was bilked out of something much more precious than money. And yet she must bear the blame? And accept that no changes need be made in the way ESD is

administered? I'm not buying.

"If this girl were uncomfortable or unhappy in her relationship with a teacher, she had ample opportunities to go privately to other adults at ESD ..."

That would make sense, except the teacher she went to was Nathan Campbell. As I understand it, she was having in difficulties in history and went to see him about it. And then the con game began.

This

Former ESD Mother @ August 25, 2011 at [2:51 pm](#)

That was really, really hard to read. Disturbing. Does Mayo have any idea how she comes across?

I'm just say'n @ August 25, 2011 at [3:50 pm](#)

Why is ESD doing this? It's obvious that several administrators are being less than honest. Character, is one of the reasons we send our children to private schools. The others being-

Superior teachers, Academics, Environment, Safety, and.....

ESD failed their students, parents, and even the many wonderful teachers that give their all to this school. This all could have been avoided. This family has a long history with the school-compassion would have gone a long way.

Grateful Bystander @ August 25, 2011 at [4:03 pm](#)

My son attends another private school in Dallas, and its theme this year is Compassion. Hey ESD, what's your theme this year? CYA?

Texas Educator @ August 25, 2011 at [4:23 pm](#)

The surgical precision of Ms. Mayo's insults continues. She refers to the victim's relationship with the predator as "sleeping with him." Does she not understand that this was an illegal act? If what is alleged to occur happened, she was not "sleeping with" Campbell, she was "raped by" Campbell. Mayo's choice of words speaks volumes about her true perspective on this matter.

Former ESD Parent @ August 25, 2011 at [4:32 pm](#)

Once again, the Christian school "compassion" provided by the ESD administration to JDII is pitiful. Swann, Mayo and Royall evidently haven't learned much from their DAILY attendance at Chapel worship. While their lack of compassion is not a legal matter to decide, it sure leaves the school with a negative public relations problem.

As previously mentioned, the Board of Trustees have a whole lot of soul searching to do as it relates to the leadership of the school and their future employment.

Regardless of the outcome, it would appear ESD has not been filing the annual 990 forms needed to protect their non-profit status. They can't claim a connection to the Dallas Episcopal Diocese. So, with all the donations received over the past 10 years, could this be a problem for the donors? Any tax experts out there?

amanda @ August 25, 2011 at [5:06 pm](#)

What is wrong with Ms. Mayo? "Wouldn't change a thing?" Really?

Episcopal parent @ August 25, 2011 at [5:18 pm](#)

As a former ESD parent I would like to thank the former ESD teacher for adding some dignity and wisdom to this blog. My children experienced the supportive, faith-centered environment that you did-and our family is forever grateful. What happened at ESD is tragic, but it could have happened anywhere. This case hopefully won't cost the school its reputation, cause frankly, one really rotten apple shouldn't have that kind of power.

BirdBrain @ August 25, 2011 at [5:24 pm](#)

Excuse Me? is correct..ESD does not like dissention..you dont see any parents demanding resignations do you? Might come back on their child... I t is disturbing, so sad, and yes, there does seem to be a LOT of secrets....sad, sad....

SadObserver @ August 25, 2011 at [5:38 pm](#)

Here's my take...

1. ESD could not have known about the abuse. Bad people (Campbell) take measures to ensure their crimes will go undiscovered, if not forever at least for as long as possible. That's what criminals do, and child molesters are particularly good at it. Should the school have in place mandatory training programs to help members of the community identify potential abuse? Yes, and I am sure the school will put such a program in place as soon as is practicable after the trial. But having such a program in place would not have prevented the abuse, in my opinion, especially with a willing participant. (Note: I believe, as the headmaster stated, the child was in no way culpable for the crimes committed against her. Her age prevented her from being a "real" participant in the decision making process to engage in sexual activity with a 34 year old married teacher. Those who think she shares some of the blame in this need to recognize she was raped, period. That's what the law says and the law is right and just.) Regardless, nothing I have heard shows me the school is guilty of negligence, gross or otherwise. The school simply could not have known this was happening.

2. The school was no longer an environment that provided the child with any realistic opportunity to heal and move beyond the terrible crimes committed against her. Removing her from the school was not punishment for her victimization, though she and her family clearly feel it was. Removing her from the school was in her best interest so she could pull her life back together and begin to move forward. It would have been impossible for her to heal while staying at the school, and therefore removing her was the right decision.

That's it. All the other stuff- who drives what kind of car, pungent emails, poor memories, the actual handling of the dismissal, bad parenting, flirty behavior, Christian forgiveness, biased reporting- all of it is simply noise- somewhat interesting and perhaps important on various levels, but not germane to the questions at hand. The only salient issues, in my mind, are those of the school's negligence and the proper course of action after the crimes and parties involved became public knowledge within the school community.

marie anderson @ August 25, 2011 at [6:01 pm](#)

Thank you Sad Observer for an impartial, realistic analysis of the issues at hand. You are absolutely right on your observations.

Excuse me? @ August 25, 2011 at [6:18 pm](#)

ESD, groupthink much? I wouldn't let Mayo dog sit my chihuahua.

Trialreporter @ August 25, 2011 at [6:35 pm](#)

I hope this whole ordeal is brought to the charitable organizations division of the Tx AG office. This is swann's cookie jar at the expense of the taxpayers.

Eagle Parent @ August 25, 2011 at [6:43 pm](#)

Thank you SadObserver and Former ESD Teacher. I agree. Nathan Campbell also left other victims at ESD - the students that he taught. He was a very popular and good, but demanding teacher. Many students were distraught about his betrayal to Jane Doe 2, ESD, and to them.

parent of 2 teens @ August 25, 2011 at [6:45 pm](#)

SadObserver & Marie Anderson,

How would you feel if Campbell took advantage of your daughter? Would you still be drinking the Kool-Aid?

ESD failed to monitor ESD Credit Card Use, ESD Cell Phone use and ESD Vehicle use. If your impressionable daughter was caught in the ESD Suburban behind a vacant store in a compromising position with a "highly regarded teacher" would that change your mind?

Eagle Parent @ August 25, 2011 at [6:45 pm](#)

@Excuse me?– are you part of the Doe family? All of your posts indicate it.

Former ESD Mother @ August 25, 2011 at [6:55 pm](#)

SadObserver: Sorry but the actual handling of the dismissal is a lot more than noise and is very germane to this case.

Another ESD Parent @ August 25, 2011 at [7:42 pm](#)

FYI: Many of the ESD bashing posts are from shills for Plaintiff's. For your edification, Ms. Aldous is well known as a very mean, aggressive, take no prisoners, Plaintiff's lawyer. However, she does not always win and has been regularly overturned on appeal. Her best friend, and part time partner, Lisa Blue Baron, is the former wife of the deceased Fred Baron, who supplied all the money to John Edwards to keep his affair secret so he could keep running for President and has now be indicted. Ms. Aldous is well aware of the Baron's involvement with John Edwards so she is not some "Innocent Community Savior".

Former Parent @ August 25, 2011 at [7:52 pm](#)

I am shocked and surprised that the Board is circling the wagons instead of moving on these many problems in the school. Clearly the leadership in the administration has failed. Clean house and save the good name of this school. Speak up Board and saying you are going to take care of this.

ESD alum04 @ August 25, 2011 at [8:11 pm](#)

Thank you Former ESD Teacher. Your words are incredible. As an alum I believe every word you say; I would not be at an ivy league college for graduate school if it weren't for ESD. If I live in Dallas as an adult I will send my kids to ESD. My successful scholastic career is a result of teachers like you who care about their students. There are a million good things that happened at ESD in the time that Campbell and doe were canoodling. Let's talk about that. I had campbell and so did my siblings. We are beyond shocked to hear about the scandal when it emerged. Keep posting Former ESD Teacher, you are smarter and more well informed than any parent blogging on here.

Wait for your summation @ August 25, 2011 at [8:12 pm](#)

@SadObserver – Thanks for giving us an early peek at your closing argument. Now that court is adjourned, you and your associate @Marie Anderson can get back to your office and post.

ESD alum04 @ August 25, 2011 at [8:16 pm](#)

Sad observer... Thank you!!! Well said

outside looking in @ August 25, 2011 at [9:07 pm](#)

Yes there is a lot right about ESD, but that is not the issue. The issue is what ESD did here and what it did here was wrong. Erin Mayo should be fired and replaced with someone who really understands compassion.

Blindly supporting any institution is wrong and those of you who see no harm in what ESD has done are looking through rose colored glasses. You people need to step away from the table and quit drinking the koolaid for at least a day or so.

outside looking in @ August 25, 2011 at [9:09 pm](#)

Grateful, I hear you. Our child attends the same school and I have seen many many incidents of compassion.

Amazed Observer @ August 25, 2011 at [9:16 pm](#)

LOL @ Interested Dad . .you are too funny. I appreciate and accept your apology although your bad language did not 'hurt my virgin ears', it was simply rude and unnecessary. Congratulations on making it to step 2 with your anger management therapy. You definitely used it tonight. Hang in there! 😊

Episcopalian @ August 25, 2011 at [9:19 pm](#)

@eagle parent your arrogant attacks are right on par with the sensitivity of the school you hold in such high regard. Who are you to attempt to out someone who is only here to voice their opinion. You and your opinions are no more entitled to anonymity than those who dare to disagree with you. Please keep blogging however because you are confirming the lack of sensitivity and bully mentality that ESD is proving to be!

Episcopalian @ August 25, 2011 at [9:24 pm](#)

FYI another ESD parent, I am not a skill for the plaintiff. I am merely a reader with no dog in this fight now that it has become quite clear that ESD is only "episcopal" by name and not by religious affiliation.

Former ESD Grandparent @ August 25, 2011 at [9:29 pm](#)

My grandson went to ESD, and he had a great experience. I spent many evenings at the school watching games, going to Grandparents Day, chapel etc. He is grown now, so as you can tell I may be a wee bit older than most others posting. I have been watching with interest this trial. Not only because my grandson attended but also because I have a new great grand daughter. Maybe my age gives me a different perspective. When your days are numbered what's really important tends to matter more. You have some wisdom that comes with age. Integrity matters. Kindness matters. Compassion matters. Love matters.

My take:

1. ESD likely didn't know about the sexual relationship or they surely would have done something. However, there are clearly steps to prevent these things from happening that were not in place. That needs to be changed immediately. And for their lack of oversight of these things they should be held responsible.
2. It has been my opinion all along that Jane should have been allowed to continue at ESD at least through the end of the school year. I have since changed my mind. ESD really wasn't going to be a school where she could thrive. The administration was not going to use this as a learning opportunity for its students or teachers. The school had become toxic by its own hand. How terribly sad. It was impossible for her to heal at a school where everyone was against her. That fault lies with the hand of the administration who were unwilling to work with the students and teachers to educate on them sexual abuse. This type of thing happened back in my day, and I had hoped the world had progressed.
3. Erin Mayo needs to be treated the way she treated Jane. Voluntary resignation or be fired. She deserves to get what she gave. I was on the fence about this whole ordeal until I read the testimony from this morning. If she is willing to do the same thing again I would not feel comfortable with my great grand daughter as a student. Who knows? It could be her next.
4. I may well be maligned for my feelings, given the hostile environment on this blog. But that's ok. I'm 84 I can take it. Just remember in a crisis love and compassion matter. As you reflect back can you remember when you took the high road and went out on a limb to help a victim?
5. ESD is a wonderful school with many dedicated teachers. Students get a valuable education. Please restore this school by relieving those in administration who literally caused this law suit and all of this negative publicity by their arrogance and single mindedness. I have loved this school but hate what they have done to Jane. Board of Trustees please rectify this.

marie anderson @ August 25, 2011 at [9:31 pm](#)

Curious: The jury is not engaged - they seem quite bored. No wincing when someone says "I don't recall." In my opinion, they seem like they are sick of the whole thing, especially the mind-numbing waste of time that Judge Benson allows in her courtroom.

"wait for your summation": I am not an associate of Sad Observer, but I do recognize sound analysis when I see it.

Amazed Observer @ August 25, 2011 at [9:38 pm](#)

@ SadObserver and Former ESD Teacher and ESD alum04, thank you for your honest and sensible comments, very well said! Most will agree this is sad and disheartening for all the parties involved. It will definitely take God's love and guidance for all to heal and move forward.

Skeptical @ August 25, 2011 at [9:59 pm](#)

People above said it would have been impossible for JDII to pull her life together. That's kind of a funny argument. Do you have 100,000,000 case studies that it is impossible for people to go to therapy and improve in the life situation they find themselves? What categorizes "impossible"? If that is the case, then insurance companies need to just pull the plug on paying for therapy, because clearly, it is impossible to get any better. Is it also impossible to use it as a method to teach the students & faculty? It sounds like her actions and behavior alienated people. (Which I still wonder about - was she that alienated *before* Campbell? Or was

the alienation the reason he chose her as his victim, he used it? Are we sure that Campbell didn't feed her things or other students things to make her more alienated, because he wanted her separated, so she wouldn't talk?) But removed, did she have any chance of closure? Did students have any chance of growing up and having a maturity moment? When do students have a chance to grow? In hardships or in glory? I think the removal of JDII did a great job of teaching students that it is impossible to come forward about a sexual assault and think that anyone will have compassion for you.

Trial watcher @ August 25, 2011 at [10:14 pm](#)

@ESD grandparent - A very thoughtful post!!

Everyone keeps mentioning the board. The board is not going to cross Father Swann. Do people really think that would ever happen?

Are you kidding @ August 25, 2011 at [10:21 pm](#)

Seriously. Do these people have brain cells? They let the child molester stay at school for the day because they didn't have anyone else to teach his class and the kids had a test? Really? And the victim couldn't collect her belongings from her locker. That would piss me off if I was on the jury. IJS

no dog in this hunt @ August 25, 2011 at [10:22 pm](#)

1. When ESD expelled Jane II, her identity became public and the rumors were 100% confirmed. The school basically shouted it from the rooftop instead of trying to protect her.

2. If she could not thrive at ESD, where else was she going to go? She was publicly branded as a "trollop" and rape victim to the entire community. ESD and its supporters are saying that she could thrive only in a new, foreign environment where she knew no one and had no friends. That's preposterous.

Former ESD Parent @ August 25, 2011 at [10:30 pm](#)

Former ESD Grandparent: Eloquent posting. Are you available to lead the school on an interim basis?!

Trial Watcher: The answer to that question may determine the direction in which ESD goes. A true test of John Eagle and his fellow board member's independence in governing the school and doing what is right for the school's future.

Former ESD Parent @ August 25, 2011 at [10:43 pm](#)

IF, this was a public school, instead of a private school, would it not solely be up to the parents whether their child stayed at the school? And, if they stayed at the school, all parties would have to deal with it instead of "getting rid" of the "problem?" The "luxury" of private schools!

Guess we know how the school would handle a student that became pregnant...end it or bye bye...

ESD WINS @ August 25, 2011 at [10:54 pm](#)

Want commentary? ESD's insurance company would not have taken this trial if it thought it would lose. ESD will appeal all day long if they lose. This trial is a PR shake down, nothing more. The legal blunders by the judge will leave a huge hole to drive a truck through on appeal.

All of these posts are just gossip and nothing more.

circling the wagons is becoming sad @ August 25, 2011 at [11:04 pm](#)

@Another ESD Parent @ August 25, 2011 at 7:42 pm

I am lost how you would know who is posting. You seem to be the shill by bringing Baron's involvement with Edwards into this. Knocking the victim hasn't worked out so well for you so maybe knocking the attorneys will? How sad you are.

Applestoapples @ August 25, 2011 at [11:13 pm](#)

Jane Doe lied about playing Apples to Apples with Campbell. It is a 4-10 player game, it is impossible to play with just two people. You don't just make a mistake like that. That is just a straight up lie. It bothers me no one has caught onto that.

Excuse me? @ August 25, 2011 at [11:15 pm](#)

@eagle parent... Nope.

Sorry I won't skip and hold hands with you off the side of a cliff. But, if in public and on the world wide innertubes I can be a person who refuses to support wrong doing? Challenge accepted.

tellingitlikeitis @ August 25, 2011 at [11:16 pm](#)

@Skeptical. I feel like parents ask their kids what really happened as they saw everything transpire. And the hostile feelings about her are transferred to parents, who feel like they know what really went on and not only feel like ESD has been wronged but also feel like they must come to its defense.

@no dog in this hunt. By the time she was expelled, most people at ESD knew it was her. So blame for that cannot fall on ESD as they told all teachers to stop any gossip as to why Mr. Campbell left. The school never explained why he left; it was the students that were able to put two and two together.

@Former ESD Parent. It is understood that if you get pregnant, you will not allowed staying at ESD, like other Dallas private schools. So to imply ESD is the only private school where pregnant people are not allowed is a little absurd. Private Schools have the power to expel students for any reason they feel fit, if people don't like that, they can go elsewhere. So please do not only classify that occurrence only with ESD.

ESD student @ August 25, 2011 at [11:25 pm](#)

@no dog in this hunt and anyone else who thinks that ESD is to blame for the rumors. YOU. ARE. WRONG.

As an actual student I can tell you that ESD did all they could to keep the rumors from sprouting up, but even before JDII left we all knew it was her and what had happened. She's not as much of a vicim as you think she is. This was going to get out regardless of whether or not JDII left ESD. ESD was smart to let her go so she wouldn't be around to hear all of the whispers that still haunt the halls today. Her identity being revealed was inevitable.

eagle-eyed @ August 25, 2011 at [11:48 pm](#)

@outside looking in:

Well, if your school has Compassion for a theme, we all better just scoot our kids right on over!

Give me a break!

The hypocrisy of it all- of saying is ESD is especially negligent and out of touch is sickening. You people think Campbell did such a good job of grooming the Victim. Well, according to that same philosophy, he must have also done a good job of grooming ESD.

If Jane Doe isn't responsible for being groomed by Campbell, then how is ESD responsible? How is ESD supposed to push back against his grooming since this grooming is apparently inevitable?

Don't tell me the adults should have known better. Shouldn't Jane have known that she was having sex when he penetrated her you-know-what!!!????????

Her lawyers have trained her too well.

By the way, I have something for you to look at, Claire. This testimony is from the other day:

Doe II says the first time Campbell came to her house they played Apples to Apples for about an hour and just talked. Her parents weren't home.

Apples to Apples requires at least four players. It is impossible to play with 2 people. Was Doe II lying? Was something dirtier going on? We need to find out.

Looks the lies are flying from all sides, anti-ESD crowd. Better be more careful with your accusations against their administrators.

tellingitlikeitis @ August 25, 2011 at [11:56 pm](#)

Does anyone know is Jane Doe II's camp ever turned over her laptop as per court's orders? It has been several months now and I have yet to hear anything about that. Hopefully they can get those emails/facebook messages she was sending out in masses to other students about "her side" of the story. That will be a good look into Jane Doe's mind and intentions, not the super innocent, i.e the "Did we just have sex?" persona that her and her lawyers have working for her. NO 16-17 year old is that oblivious, I am sorry; I do not know what world you all are living in.

I really do wish that students were able to testify in this trial, the information that everyone has no clue about is astonishing. Like why hasn't anyone in court

asked if this is her first inappropriate relationship with an adult, some of you will be very surprised what you find out. Instead of digging into ESD's money, they should be digging deeper into this girl's background to everyone can see what type of person she really is. Yet, I think it is amazing there are so many people who have no clue what happened, but feel like they know enough about this situation to comment. Also, I saw this entire ordeal occur including the circumstances before, during, and after the two of them was found out. I do not care how many commenter's on this blog attack ESD, I based my opinion from seeing this first hand. I think that Jane Doe knew exactly what she was doing or she wouldn't have lied to the police and explained nothing was happening, sent him tens of thousands of text messages, meet him only in a towel while alone in her house, try to contact him after they were exposed—when her family asked for her identity not be revealed, her attempts to reach out to students and give her deal, in my eyes, speak for themselves. I am in no way saying this is her completely her fault and she deserves what happened to her, she was just well-aware of what was going on.

Alum & Parent @ August 26, 2011 at [12:14 am](#)

I feel that many things have been handled in an “act and re-act” manner in this incident for a first time major situation at the school. I also feel really bad for the family and the girl that was affected by the bad apple at a great community that ESD has strived to create. A very wise man once tried to convince me that a small sample of bad in a big lake of good proved that an entire lake was spoiled and I disagreed. This is a community that is having to react to an unknowing awful hire that ended in an even more very regrettable ending. No one is omniscient that walks this earth today. Asking an institution to be a little above obligation. They are there to nurture and educate our children. What a teenager does typically is what they want to do at least it was when I was that age. What Mr. Campbell did was take advantage and he should be held fully accountable. I'm not saying ESD should cleanse it's hands of the incident, but asking a community to take FULL responsibility of a very bad hire and a very impressionable teen is not so black and white. Clearly, there needs to be some changes in procedures, but as this economic and political environment has shown us that no one has this figured out for sure.

SadObserver @ August 26, 2011 at [12:43 am](#)

@ Parent of 2 teens,

To address your question... How would I feel if my daughter had been caught in a parking lot in a school-owned Suburban behind a vacant store with her teacher in a compromising position... IT IS IRRELEVANT HOW I WOULD FEEL. (More on that below.)

There are two salient questions here, as I stated previously: 1) Was the school negligent in not preventing or discovering the crime earlier; and 2) Was the school acting appropriately in removing the child from the school?

My opinions on these questions was stated previously, and I will not be so arrogant as to tell you how to think for yourself about the answers to those questions. But I will submit those are the questions that matter in this proceeding. Decide for yourself what are the answers.

It makes no matter how I would feel if this happened to my daughter, but to answer your question directly concerning my feelings upon discovering my daughter was found in a school-owned Suburban with her teacher in a compromising position... I would be horrified, angry, disappointed, sick, and who knows what else. I can hardly imagine the pain I would feel.

Nancy @ August 26, 2011 at [12:50 am](#)

SadObserver@, Well said.

I don't even get this case. It is not even rational to blame the school for something they didn't even know was happening and how could they know? I think they did the best they could and I am sure the jury sees that.

It seems to me the plaintiff's know they are losing. I think they are on this blog saying hateful things about the school thinking if they can make this all painful enough for the school and the people that support them that the school will want to settle just to end this.

ESD supporters stay strong. After the plaintiff's lose and there is no money in trashing the school I expect we will see and end to all this finally.

CarolinaBorn @ August 26, 2011 at [1:01 am](#)

This has been some superb reporting of an awfully important case. Thank you Claire!

I don't have a dog in this fight — just a mom and lawyer way across the country. (This story has legs!) But I sure hate to see a molested child further victimized by the teachers and administration who should've stepped up to help her. Hate it worse when they try to camouflage their creepiness — as here — by claiming it was all for her own good.....

Listen to the defense witnesses gabble — gosh they just cant remember what all they might have said to gain the molester’s support ... or, yeah their emails were unspeakably cruel, but that’s not how they reallllllyy fellllttt.... cause really they’re all just so concerned for her....

Unfortunately none of the evidence supports their sanctimonious claims of compassion now. Just their own self-serving characterizations — not backed up by the facts. (Did they check with the school psych before they booted the victim? Nope. Did they then try to misrepresent the psych’s involvement after the fact? Apparently so.)

Nothin against private schools — we sent our kids to one— and I’ve served on the board my ownself. And I’ve seen some rotten behavior when administrators act like their favored teacher’s welfare — rather than the students — should be their main concern. But this beats all I’ve ever seen — as a mother, board member and lawyer too. You’ve got the blatant posturing and sanctimony of Swann, the disturbing comments of that DEEPLY creepy principal (mayo?), teachers talking dirt about a victimized child.... Lordy Lord.

But of course they really only wanted to heeelllpppp her.....

To the EDS grandfather who posted today: I thought your comment was one of the best, most thoughtful, most reasonable I’ve read (and there have quite a few great ones, I think)). As a lawyer, tho, I find the posts claiming that the ESD defense is going great to be downright laughable. Not to sound rude, but REALLY?? I understand you want to try to build support for the notion that ESD shouldn’t, couldn’t, mustn’t be held accountable. But to suggest that ESD is looking good here???

As one of my partners used to say,

“Just callin’ [excrement] chocolate ice cream dont make it so....”

Fact is, that observation seems to apply to the ESD defense in general...

I hope and pray the jury does the right thing.

Truth be told @ August 26, 2011 at [6:32 am](#)

Was Claire at the same trial as the DMN? According to the DMN Mayo went step by step what led to ESD removing Doe from school. These were not boring details, but ESD’s case for the removal. Either Claire is a 2nd rate reporter, biased against ESD, or both. Read the DMN for a more accurate account of the trial.

Impartial Observer @ August 26, 2011 at [7:20 am](#)

In reading these comments for a few days, it’s clear that there are comments being made by people with legal training, perhaps lawyers. Considering the negative tone of most of them, sometimes quite incendiary (usually lawyers try and be pretty impartial), it’s almost like the commenters might not be just observers, but have a stake in the outcome. It would be a shame if individuals who are looking for genuine comment and discussion are being misled and influenced by some people using underhanded tactics.

amanda @ August 26, 2011 at [7:44 am](#)

Well, I thought the Former G–parent comment was GOOD.

I think some of the comments missed the fact that Claire posted a later update on the trial...I think we are been “screened,” and that may account for the lag. I’m glad to see the DMN is back on this, but I don’t think Claire’s reports are meant to be as detailed.

I’m wondering how many people picked up on this: the victim had some kind of learning difference? It’s chilling to read that under their policy for that, she was allowed “extra” time to meet with teachers. Chilling. So, Campbell only had grade like “Darth Vader” once this child was on his radar to start and continue grooming her for an entire school year. For people calling for change in policy, procedures, and even more drastic...this is something that needs to be changed. They can offer “group” tutoring or panels of faculty to triage students who need help...but giving one unlimited access to a child under the guise of academic help is pretty horrible.

And, from Mayo’s testimony...the fact that the victim had a learning difference makes me all the more convinced the school did the wrong thing. If she had been at ESD since kindergarten, this was something she adapted to in the school’s operating system. Ripping her out of classes so suddenly? Wrong, wrong, wrong. That means if she was to transfer to a public school, she would have no IEP in place. Depending on what her issue is, that could have drastic impact on her academics.

To be frank, I’m surprised the girl survived the transition. And, as has been stated above, this HAS taught the student body a powerful lesson about sexual assault. And, not a good one. And, like Former G–parent said, these thing used to happen, and he/she hoped we progressed to dealing differently. Eh, not so

much.

The girl wasn't necessarily causing a disruption. The FACULTY was fueling this protective stance, I suppose for the sake of Mrs. Campbell, and there was TONS of gossip from students and FACULTY. The students, one would think, could have been counseled, coached, and taught some important lessons, but when the FACULTY is fueling it? Forget about having anything productive.

I don't buy that this was for her own good. And, Mayo saying she regretted the "haunting/sad story email," also got the detail of the wedding ring incident wrong (the "straw") in tossing the victim out...stands by "I wouldn't change a thing." ESD, that's a problem.

Big D @ August 26, 2011 at [8:04 am](#)

Ok. I've read all the posts and I have just one question: How can Swann afford a Porsche Panamera? I find that kind of shocking for a priest. where is that money coming from? Can anyone shed some light?

Whose Emergency? @ August 26, 2011 at [8:12 am](#)

Why did they call an emergency faculty meeting? What was their motivation - assuring teachers/staff that Nathan Campbell was not home sick? Looks to me like Mayo/Swann CREATED the high drama in the school. Why didn't they consult professionals about how to address Campbell's departure to all stakeholders? Also, I'm having a tough time understanding Mayo's logic. She confirms that believing Ms. Weil heard the 'wedding ring question' first hand from JDII was the culminating catalyst in her decision to expel JDII. She now realizes that she misunderstood Weil, confirms that she knew it was a life-altering decision and yet she "wouldn't change a thing."

Sodas @ August 26, 2011 at [8:53 am](#)

@sadoobserver, @Nancy, @Marie Anderson, and definitely @Eagle-eye you all sound like you are attorneys or skills for the defense. Quit accusing people are for the plaintiff unless you have proof. If there are people for the plaintiff, there are people for the defense. @formerESDgrandmother, your comments were the best. @Carolinaborn, you are right it does look bad for the defense and that is why these ESD parents are getting so upset. They only want to look at what Jane Doe did wrong but choose to ignore everything the administrators did wrong. They are so arrogant, just like Mayo, it is going to bite them in the butt. @eagle-eye, you definitely are a board member or some one on the legal team. @sadoobserver, you will one day go through something terrible and then maybe have sympathy for these parents. Wake up, your school was at fault and did not have policies in place to deal with this, they only care about the money and should have settled.

VM @ August 26, 2011 at [8:57 am](#)

Father Swann's wife is from a wealthy family. His lifestyle is not contingent on his position (or salary) at ESD.

VM @ August 26, 2011 at [9:07 am](#)

@Amanda - at ESD learning difference would mean ADD or a processing disorder (that is very mild) and you would get extra time for tests...not anything major. If it was more than that you would asked to go to leave.

It does not alter the facts - he is guilty of engaging in a relationship with a student. However that is more relevant for the criminal trial. For this trial what matters is - does ESD bear more than 50% responsibility for the relationship. I would argue NO. His spouse was an employee and the faculty/staff would have NEVER knowingly encouraged or hidden an affair between teacher and student.

Sodas @ August 26, 2011 at [9:08 am](#)

@truth be told, quit bashing Claire. I was in court and she is reporting it like it is. Just because the administrators are arrogant, Mayo, and come across in a bad way, don't get made at the messenger. The last two DMN articles before this made ESD look really bad. I guess according to you that was bias reporting then too. When a case looks bad, it usually is because they are wrong. Which ESD is in this case so quit crying about the reporter being at fault.

Interested DAD @ August 26, 2011 at [9:08 am](#)

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/community-news/dallas/headlines/20110825-episcopal-school-of-dallas-took-appropriate-steps-in-teacher-student-sex-case-official-says.ece>

I want to know, who is paying the other media outlets here in town not to report this? And since Carolina Born used the word “excrement” and amazed observer didn’t considered it “RUDE” language, “HOLY EXCREMENT”

I dont care what side of the fence you fall on in this fight, but seriously supporters of ESD, that doesn’t bother you a little. A teacher in Kaufmann has “inappropriate” contact with a child this week and it is plastered in the regular section of the news, and reported by all 4 networks but nothing about this trial. If it smells like money, most likely it is. Why the cover up from the media. Who is pulling the strings, purse strings of the media that is. Someone knows, and it is being done to save an “image”, that image correlates to money in the form of “gifts to the school”, bust’s, paintings and buildings. At what cost, at what cost?

It is documented that children that have “learning differences” can fall prey to people that wish them harm. Drugs, Alcohol, Cults, and yes “inappropriate contact”. It was revealed yesterday that JDII was given “learning difference accommodations” by MAYO.

People have said why people are so “strong” in this blog against ESD. The people that support ESD I understand and respect to some extent your passion and love of the school, but at some point I would hope that this young girl is a victim, a victim of Nathan Campbell, both mentally and physically. I truly believe she was groomed and I do believe one is allowed to be groomed for the most obvious of poor self esteem. I just want to know where the supporter’s will admit this ‘CHILD’ in the eyes of the Lord ,has been hurt, and put aside emotions and come to grips with what really happened. Some of the statements by people here, IMO have “God in a Box” They say all the right things, go to Bible study and are seen at church on Sunday. They make sure their children are in the “right” Bible Study and go to the right “Christian Camp(Kanakuk), but do they listen to their ministers, priest and pastors when a child is baptized as an infant in front of the congregation. They ask” Do you promise to raise this child in the church?” Congregation, “YES”. Do you promise to protect this child and help raise this child as your own? Congregation, “YES”

Most of us have witnessed one of these ceremonies at a church and answered those questions. My question did we as a community, and as a school protect JDII and help raise JDII as own?

From Dallas Morning News”“The safety of children always comes first, and we investigate all complaints that come from CPS vigorously,” Kaufman County Sheriff David A. Byrnes said in a news release.
Sheriff Byrnes understands

episcopal parent @ August 26, 2011 at 9:14 am

@ ESD WINS, may be so, or, may be, just may be, the insurance companIES were led to believe that Aldous and Goosen (soon-to-be-known as Thelma and Louise) could not bust the statutory damage cap for a charitable company. At this point, the ladies have proved gross negligence, fraud and quite possibly malice. Regardless of this trial or the next, ESD’s hopes of Thelma and Louise busting the cap are long gone. Along the way, Thelma has proven that there are other acts that ESD has failed to disclose during the discovery phase of this suit. Bet you my Grandpa’s farm that Swann, Burrow, Eagle failed to disclose these acts on ESD’s insurance applications. If this is the case, may be, just may be, it benefits the insurance companIES to let Aldous destroy ESD and then deny coverage. Anyone with experience knows that an insurance carrier would have settled this case at this point and more likely long ago. If ESD’s counsel were smart, they would have settled with Thelma in the beginning very quietly and gone a knocking on the insurance companIES’ doors. As it sits, seems like the ladies and the Does will be finding out what secret moneys Swann, Burrow and Eagle have hidden in their little 501(c)(3)investment fund.

Amazed Observer @ August 26, 2011 at 9:30 am

Big D, good question. I just went on the Boardwalk Porsche website and it’s a \$90–100,000 car.

<http://boardwalkporsche.com/Dallas/For-Sale/New/Porsche/>

trial watcher 2 @ August 26, 2011 at 9:37 am

@Big D – you missed all the \$million + salary talk – someone else jump in about the \$\$.

ESD had a knee-jerk reaction to a crisis situation. I have been thinking about how they could have handled it. They could have suspended her for a couple of days. That would have given them time to think. Then, Father Swann could have gone to her house with some Sprinkles cupcakes and her school options (he should have arranged for her to go to another school) and gently told The Does and Jane of her expulsion. Sure, they would have been upset, but it would have been way less cowardly and callous. I think the fact she had to leave is less disturbing than the way it was handled. From what I have read, Father Swann has a degree in Psychology.