



Lemont High School

800 Porter Street • Lemont, IL 60439

Phone - (630) 257-5838

Fax - (630) 257-7603

Web - www.lhs210.net

Dr. Matt Maxwell, Superintendent

Eric Michaelsen, Principal



Exemplary High Performing School • 2017 National Blue Ribbon Schools Program

Via Email

July 13, 2026

W (AACL)

Michael A. Ayele

P.O.Box 20438

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

E-mail: waac13@gmail.com ; waac1313@gmail.com ; waac142913@gmail.com

Re: Illinois FOIA Request - 5 ILCS 140/1

Dear W:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated July 9, 2026, and received in my office on July 9, 2026.

In your letter you requested the following:

I) Requested Records

What I am requesting for prompt disclosure are records in your possession detailing your discussions about [1] the #MeToo movement having inspired (i) women such as Julia Steed to speak out and take legal action against teachers who had sexually abused them when they were high school students; (ii) the State of California to enact into law Civil Code § 47.1; [2] California Civil Code § 47.1 as legislation which recognizes that (i) members of the general public and representatives of the media could be defamed and libeled when factually reporting on documented incidents of sexual abuse; (ii) the libel and defamation of people who factually report on documented incidents of sexual abuse is morally reprehensible and punishable by law; (iii) the libel and defamation of people who factually report on the manner in which they were informed what constitutes affirmative and effective consent is ethically despicable and punishable by law; [3] Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W as a Black Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree graduate of Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) who has witnessed his written publications being subjected to frenzy before they were filtered and distorted by internet search engines (ISE) such as AOL, Bing/MSN, Google and Yahoo following his decision to recognize that (i) there was a very awkward moment of silence in the September 2022 interview Jennifer Lawrence did with Vogue magazine after she said that "the weirdest thing [she] has ever read in [her] life was that [she] f***** Harvey Weinstein;" (ii) he has previously corresponded with agencies of the U.S. government on the impact of the #MeToo movement; (iii) he has previously corresponded with agencies of the U.S. government on the matter involving The People of the State of California v. Harvey Weinstein, which was previously assigned Case No.: BA484270 (by the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center); [4] the decision of internet search engines (ISE) to filter and distort Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W's written publications on the impact of the #MeToo movement by generating unwelcome and unapproved queries such as "Michael Ayele Jennifer Lawrence," "Michael Ayele consent," "Michael Ayele Title IX," "Michael Ayele libel," "Michael Ayele lawsuit pdf," "Michael Ayele lawsuit status," "Michael Ayele lawsuit news," "Michael Ayele lawsuit update," "Michael Ayele summons," "Michael Ayele subpoenas," "Michael Ayele interrogatories," "Michael Ayele case," "Michael Ayele trial," "Michael Ayele email," "Michael Ayele Cybersecurity Awareness Month;" [5] ProPublica as an American news media outlet which had in the month of May 2026 recognized that (i) sexual misconduct complaints filed by female high school

students were very frequently trivialized, reframed or dismissed altogether by California's elementary and secondary system of education; (ii) pedophile teachers (in the State of California) who are sexually inappropriate with their female high school students frequently face no professional repercussions even after a complaint is lodged against them; (iii) pedophile teachers (in the State of California) who are sexually inappropriate with their female high school students are frequently not criminally charged even after a complaint is lodged against them; [6] the mechanism by which female students in your school district can file a complaint against a teacher who is being sexually inappropriate towards them; [7] 1 Corinthians 10: 13 teaching as follows: "No trial or temptation has come upon you except what is common to everyone. God is faithful and will not allow you to be tested beyond what you can bear. He will also provide a way through it so that you can endure it;" [8] 2 Corinthians 4:8 – 9 (NIV) teaching as follows: "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed."

Response to request:

In response to your requests, "[6] the mechanism by which female students in your school district can file a complaint against a teacher who is being sexually inappropriate towards them". You can find all policies related to Title IX on our website or at https://v3.boardpolicyonline.com/b/lemont_210. Policies that mention Title IX are 2:260, 2:265, 4:165, 5:10, 5:20, 5:100, 5:120, 6:40, 7:10, 7:20, 7:180, 7:185, 7:255, 8:80, and 8:90. Title IX information can also be found in our Student Handbook on our website or at <https://www.lhs210.net/student-services/student-handbook>. Title IX is mentioned on pages 29, 30, 85, and 87.

In response to your other requests, the District does not have any records in its possession or control pertaining to those items.

As Superintendent and one of the FOIA Officers for the District, I am responsible for granting and denying requests for records under the FOIA. The District's responses contained in this letter intend to be fully responsive to your specific request. If I have misinterpreted your request, please clarify your request in writing to me. In the event your request has been denied by a District Freedom of Information Officer, you may appeal this decision to the Illinois Attorney General -Public Access Counselor, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, (877) 299-3642 [public.access@ilag.gov]. You may also appeal this decision by filing suit for injunctive relief in the circuit court.

If you should have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dr. Matt Maxwell
Superintendent
Lemont High School District 210

FOIA Request - 5 ILCS 140/1

External

Inbox



Jul 9, 2026, 6:23 AM (4
days ago)

Michael Ayele

to me, mmaxwell, thamilton, Michael



W (AACL)
Michael A. Ayele
P.O.Box 20438
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail: waac13@gmail.com ; waac1313@gmail.com ; waac142913@gmail.com

Date.: Thursday, July 9, 2026

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

Hello,

This is Michael A. Ayele sending this message, though I now go by W (and I prefer to be referred to as such). I am writing this letter for the purpose of filing a FOIA request with Lemont High School. The bases for this non-commercial FOIA request are [1] the provisions of California Civil Code § 47.1 ^[i] and [2] the ProPublica May 2026 articles about the impact of the #MeToo movement in school districts throughout the State of California. ^[ii]

I) Requested Records

What I am requesting for prompt disclosure are records in your possession detailing your discussions about [1] the #MeToo movement having inspired (i) women such as Julia Steed to speak out and take legal action against teachers who had sexually abused them when they were high school students; (ii) the State of California to enact into law Civil Code § 47.1; [2] California Civil Code § 47.1 as legislation which recognizes that (i) members of the general public and representatives of the media could be defamed and libeled when factually reporting on documented incidents of sexual abuse; (ii) the libel and defamation of people who factually report on documented incidents of sexual abuse is morally reprehensible and punishable by law; (iii) the libel and defamation of people who factually report on the manner in which they were informed what constitutes affirmative and effective consent is ethically despicable and punishable by law; [3] Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W as a Black Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree graduate of Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) who has witnessed his written publications being subjected to frenzy before they were filtered and distorted by internet search engines (ISE) such as AOL, Bing/MSN, Google and Yahoo following his decision to recognize that (i) there was a very awkward moment of silence in the September 2022 interview Jennifer Lawrence did with Vogue magazine after she said that "the

*weirdest thing [she] has ever read in [her] life was that [she] f***** Harvey Weinstein;*" (ii) he has previously corresponded with agencies of the U.S. government on the impact of the #MeToo movement; (iii) he has previously corresponded with agencies of the U.S. government on the matter involving *The People of the State of California v. Harvey Weinstein*, which was previously assigned Case No.: BA484270 (by the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center); [4] the decision of internet search engines (ISE) to filter and distort Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W's written publications on the impact of the #MeToo movement by generating unwelcome and unapproved queries such as "*Michael Ayele Jennifer Lawrence*," "*Michael Ayele consent*," "*Michael Ayele Title IX*," "*Michael Ayele libel*," "*Michael Ayele lawsuit pdf*," "*Michael Ayele lawsuit status*," "*Michael Ayele lawsuit news*," "*Michael Ayele lawsuit update*," "*Michael Ayele summons*," "*Michael Ayele subpoenas*," "*Michael Ayele interrogatories*," "*Michael Ayele case*," "*Michael Ayele trial*," "*Michael Ayele email*," "*Michael Ayele Cybersecurity Awareness Month*;" [5] ProPublica as an American news media outlet which had in the month of May 2026 recognized that (i) sexual misconduct complaints filed by female high school students were very frequently trivialized, reframed or dismissed altogether by California's elementary and secondary system of education; (ii) pedophile teachers (in the State of California) who are sexually inappropriate with their female high school students frequently face no professional repercussions even after a complaint is lodged against them; (iii) pedophile teachers (in the State of California) who are sexually inappropriate with their female high school students are frequently not criminally charged even after a complaint is lodged against them; [6] the mechanism by which female students in your school district can file a complaint against a teacher who is being sexually inappropriate towards them; [7] 1 Corinthians 10: 13 teaching as follows: "*No trial or temptation has come upon you except what is common to everyone. God is faithful and will not allow you to be tested beyond what you can bear. He will also provide a way through it so that you can endure it;*" [8] 2 Corinthians 4:8 – 9 (NIV) teaching as follows: "*We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.*"

II) Request for a Fee Waiver and Expedited Processing

The public has a compelling and legitimate interest in this information because:

- 1) On (or around) May 12, 2026, ProPublica had published an article wherein it had recognized that the #MeToo movement [i] had inspired women such as Julia Steed to speak out and take legal action against the teachers who had sexually abused them when they were high school students; [2] was shining a spotlight on the sexual abuse female high school students in the State of California were subjected to.
- 2) The requested records will enable the public to ascertain if your school district has appropriate mechanisms in place that encourage female K-12 students to file a complaint if/when they encounter chauvinism, misogyny, sexism and/or other forms of discrimination.
- 3) The requested records will enable the public to ascertain if your school district has held conversations about the reasons why K-12 female students feel that their complaints will not be taken seriously if/when they speak out against chauvinism, misogyny, sexism and/or other forms of discrimination.
- 4) The requested records will enable the public to ascertain if your school district has held conversations about the impact of the #MeToo movement on American society and government.
- 5) The requested records will enable the public to ascertain if your school district has held conversations about the September 2022 interview Jennifer Lawrence did with Vogue magazine wherein she recognized that "*the weirdest thing [she's] ever read about herself was that she f***** Harvey Weinstein.*"
- 6) The requested records will enable the public to ascertain if your school district has held conversations about the matter involving *The People of the State of California v. Harvey Weinstein*, which was previously assigned Case No.: BA484270 (by the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center).
- 7) The requested records will enable the public to ascertain if your school district has held conversations about the provisions of California Civil Code § 47.1.

Expedited processing is justified for this request because:

- 1) When enacting into law California Civil Code § 47.1 on (or around) January 1, 2024, the State of California had recognized that (i) members of the general public and representatives of the media could be defamed and libeled when factually reporting on documented incidents of sexual violence; (ii) the libel and defamation of people who factually report on documented incidents of sexual violence is morally reprehensible and punishable by law; (iii) the libel and defamation of people

who factually report on the manner in which they were informed what constitutes affirmative and effective consent is ethically despicable and punishable by law.

2) On (or around) January 30, 2018, the National Council on Disability (NCD) had published a report wherein they recognized that [i] *"affirmative and effective consent"* is being taught to (domestic and international) college and university students of the United States of America (U.S.A.) during the course of their freshman year; [ii] college and university students in America (whether domestic or international) are informed about *"healthy sexual relationships"* during the course of their first year of post-secondary academic education; [iii] 20% of women were sexually assaulted in a college or university setting (of the U.S.A) by the time they reached their senior year in Calendar Year 2005; [iv] 32% of women with a disability were sexually assaulted during Calendar Years 2014 and 2015 in a college or university setting (of the U.S.A.); [v] sexual assault *"is a public health and public safety concern with far-reaching implications;"* [vi] sexual assault is a *"deeply personal violation,"* which *"leaves physical and emotional impacts that change the lives of victims;"* [vii] sexual assault causes *"long-term physical, psychological, and emotional effects, including depression, post-traumatic stress, thoughts of suicide, flashbacks, and sleep disorders."* The NCD have also noted that their January 30, 2018 report sought to *"raise awareness of sexual assault (...) on college campuses by examining college policies and practices."* Furthermore, they write that *"Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that receives federal funding. Under Title IX, discrimination on the basis of sex can include sexual harassment, rape and sexual assault. A college or university that receives federal funds may be held legally responsible when it knows about and ignores sexual harassment or assault in its programs or activities. As of September 22, 2017, colleges can adopt various standards of proof in sexual assault cases, from the lowest standard of proof (preponderance of evidence) to a higher standard of proof (clear and convincing evidence). Title IX, like the Clery Act, also requires college employers that address sexual assault to have proper training and to train the campus community in its policies and procedures regarding sexual assault."* [iii]

3) Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W is a Black ex-immigrant who went to America on an F-1 visa in the month of December 2009 (when he was eighteen years of age).

4) Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W is a Black ex-immigrant who went to America to pursue his undergraduate academic education.

5) Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W is a Black ex-immigrant who was informed what constitutes *"affirmative and effective consent"* when he was a full-time undergraduate student at Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) in the month of January 2010.

6) Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W is a Black former international student who was informed what constitutes *"affirmative and effective consent"* after being told of the April 5, 1986 rape and murder of Jeanne Ann Clery.

7) Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W is a Black former international student who has graduated from Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree in Political Science and Economics on (or around) December 31, 2016.

8) Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W is a Black B.A. Degree graduate of Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) who has in the mid-2010s witnessed racist frauds playing fast and loose in many legal filings (where they broached the issue of *"consent"* by linking it to his name, his image and his likeness).

9) Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W is a Black B.A. Degree graduate of Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) who has in the mid-2010s expressed written objections upon witnessing racist frauds playing fast and loose in many legal filings where they broached the issue of *"consent"* by linking it to his name, his image and his likeness.

10) The requested records will shed light upon the manner in which internet search engines (ISE) such as AOL, Bing/MSN, Google and Yahoo have filtered and distorted Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W's written publications by generating unwelcome and unapproved queries such as *"Michael Ayele Jennifer Lawrence," "Michael Ayele consent," "Michael Ayele Title IX," "Michael Ayele Jeanne Clery," "Michael Ayele death penalty," "Michael Ayele schizophrenia," "Michael Ayele views on schizophrenia," "Michael Ayele Habeas Corpus," "Michael Ayele libel," "Michael Ayele lawsuit pdf," "Michael Ayele lawsuit status," "Michael Ayele lawsuit news," "Michael Ayele lawsuit update," "Michael Ayele summons," "Michael Ayele subpoenas," "Michael Ayele interrogatories," "Michael Ayele case," "Michael Ayele trial," "Michael Ayele Cybersecurity Awareness Month," "Mike Ayele alumni," "Michael Ayele alumni."* [iv]

11) The requested records will shed light about Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W's key questions on Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. [v]

In my judgment, the facts presented in my request for a fee waiver and expedited processing will significantly decrease public confidence in the activities, the engagements and the priorities of internet search engines (ISE) such as AOL, Bing/MSN, Google and Yahoo because they have previously filtered and distorted Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W's correspondence with the United States government about the #MeToo movement as well as the matter involving The People of the State of California v. Harvey Weinstein, which was previously assigned Case No.: BA484270 (by the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center). Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that the decision of ISE to filter, distort and misattribute Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W's written publications on matters pertaining to the #MeToo movement [1] was not an isolated incident, but part of a repeated pattern; [2] has served to obfuscate the fact that Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W was 18 years of age when he was informed what constitutes "*affirmative and effective consent*" on the campus of Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) in the month of January 2010; [3] has served to obfuscate the fact that Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W was 18 years of age (in the month of January 2010) when he was informed what constitutes "*affirmative and effective consent*" after being told of the April 5, 1986 rape and murder of Jeanne Ann Clery; [4] has served to obfuscate the fact that Michael Ayele (a.k.a.) W unequivocally condemns violence committed against girls and women irrespective of their racial backgrounds, their sexual orientations, their national origins, their religious affiliations, their disability status and/or their age groups; [5] has served to obfuscate the fact that Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W has in the mid-2010s witnessed racist frauds playing fast and loose in many legal filings where they broached the issue of "*consent*" by linking it to his name, his image and his likeness; [6] has served to obfuscate the fact that Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W has in the mid-2010s expressed written objections upon witnessing racist frauds playing fast and loose in many legal filings where they broached the issue of "*consent*" by linking it to his name, his image and his likeness; [7] has exacerbated racism and discrimination online, causing direct harm to the name, the image and the likeness of Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W.

When enacting into law California Civil Code § 47.1, the State of California has recognized that members of the general public and representatives of the media who factually report on instances of sexual harassment, sexual assault and/or rape run the risk of being libeled and defamed. However, in my opinion, this very real risk of being libeled and defamed (or being sued for libel and defamation) should not be an excuse (for members of the general public and representatives of the media) to avoid asking thoughtful and responsible questions on matters pertaining to sexual violence committed against girls and women. For instance, on (or around) September 6, 2022, Vogue magazine had scheduled an interview with Jennifer Lawrence to ask her 73 (seventy-three) questions. As you may be aware, one of the 73 questions that was posed to Jennifer Lawrence on (or around) September 6, 2022 was: "*What is the weirdest thing you have ever read about yourself?*" In response to this specific question, Jennifer Lawrence said that "*the weirdest thing [she] has ever read about [herself] was that [she] f***** Harvey Weinstein.*" [\[vi\]](#)

If I were representing Vogue magazine, and Jennifer Lawrence had told me on camera that "*the weirdest thing [she] has ever read about [herself] was that [she] f***** Harvey Weinstein,*" I'd have asked her the following questions: "*Where did you read that? Is there any truth to the allegations that you, Jennifer Lawrence had consensual sexual relations with Harvey Weinstein? Was Harvey Weinstein ever sexually inappropriate towards you? How did you navigate instances of chauvinism, misogyny and sexism in your professional career in Hollywood?*" For me, these are thoughtful and responsible questions to ask of a woman who says on camera that "*the weirdest thing [she] has ever read about [herself] was that [she] f***** Harvey Weinstein.*" In other words, a news media outlet that fails to ask these basic and decent questions (because it fears a defamation lawsuit) is not really the sort of news media outlet I trust to have fair, impartial, neutral, objective and unbiased reporting on matters pertaining to sexual violence committed against girls and women. On my end, I do think it's very regrettable that Vogue magazine missed the very unique opportunity to press Jennifer Lawrence on the sexism she's experienced in the entertainment industry particularly after she explicitly told them that "*the weirdest thing [she's] ever read about herself was that [she] f***** Harvey Weinstein.*"

The core issues presented in this records request are as follows. 1) Have you had conversations about the #MeToo movement having inspired women such as Julia Steed to speak out and take legal action against teachers who had sexually abused them when they were high school students? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 2) Have you had conversations about the #MeToo movement having inspired the State of California to enact into law Civil Code § 47.1 (a.k.a.) Assembly Bill 933? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 3) Have you had conversations about California Civil Code § 47.1 as legislation which recognizes that people could be defamed for factually reporting on documented incidents of sexual violence? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 4) Have you had conversations about California Civil Code § 47.1 as legislation which recognizes that the libel and the defamation of people who factually report on documented incidents of sexual violence is morally reprehensible and punishable by law? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 5) Have you had conversations about California Civil Code § 47.1 as legislation which recognizes that the defamation of people who factually report on the manner in which they were informed what constitutes affirmative and effective consent is ethically despicable and punishable by law? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 6) Have you had conversations about Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W as a Black Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree graduate of Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) who has witnessed his written publications being subjected to frenzy before they were filtered and distorted by internet search engines (ISE) such as AOL, Bing/MSN, Google and Yahoo following his decision to recognize that there was a very awkward moment of silence in the September 2022 interview Jennifer Lawrence did with Vogue magazine after she said that "*the weirdest thing [she] has ever read in [her] life was that [she] f***** Harvey Weinstein?*" If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 7) Have you had conversations about Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W as a Black B.A. Degree graduate of Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) who has witnessed his written publications being subjected to frenzy before they were filtered and distorted by ISE such as AOL, Bing/MSN, Google and Yahoo following his decision to recognize that he has previously corresponded with agencies of the U.S. government on the impact of the #MeToo movement? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 8)

Have you had conversations about Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W as a Black B.A. Degree graduate of Westminster College (Fulton, Missouri) who has witnessed his written publications being subjected to frenzy before they were filtered and distorted by ISE such as AOL, Bing/MSN, Google and Yahoo following his decision to recognize that he has previously corresponded with agencies of the U.S. government on the matter involving *The People of the State of California v. Harvey Weinstein*, which was previously assigned Case No.: BA484270 (by the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center)? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 9) Have you had conversations about the decision of ISE to filter and distort Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W's written publications on the impact of the #MeToo movement by generating unwelcome and unapproved queries such as "*Michael Ayele Jennifer Lawrence*," "*Michael Ayele consent*," "*Michael Ayele Title IX*," "*Michael Ayele libel*," "*Michael Ayele lawsuit pdf*," "*Michael Ayele lawsuit status*," "*Michael Ayele lawsuit news*," "*Michael Ayele lawsuit update*," "*Michael Ayele summons*," "*Michael Ayele subpoenas*," "*Michael Ayele interrogatories*," "*Michael Ayele case*," "*Michael Ayele trial*," "*Michael Ayele Cybersecurity Awareness Month*?" If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 10) Have you had conversations about ProPublica as an American news media outlet which had in the month of May 2026 recognized that sexual misconduct complaints filed by female high school students are very frequently trivialized, reframed or dismissed altogether by California's elementary and secondary system of education? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 11) Have you had conversations about ProPublica as an American news media outlet which had in the month of May 2026 recognized that pedophile teachers (in the State of California) who are sexually inappropriate with their female high school students frequently face no professional repercussions even after a complaint is lodged against them? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 12) Have you had conversations about ProPublica as an American news media outlet which had in the month of May 2026 recognized that pedophile teachers (in the State of California) who are sexually inappropriate with their female high school students frequently face no criminal charges even after a complaint is lodged against them? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 13) Have you had conversations about the reasons why female students in K-12 schools feel discouraged to file a complaint when they fall victim to an incident of sexual harassment and/or sexual assault and/or rape? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 14) Have you had conversations about the mechanisms your school district has put in place to encourage K-12 female students to file a complaint against a teacher (or another individual) who is being sexually inappropriate towards them? If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 15) Have you had conversations about 1 Corinthians 10: 13 teaching as follows: "*No trial or temptation has come upon you except what is common to everyone. God is faithful and will not allow you to be tested beyond what you can bear. He will also provide a way through it so that you can endure it*?" If yes, will you promptly disclose those records? 16) Have you had conversations about 2 Corinthians 4:8 – 9 (NIV) teaching as follows: "*We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed*?" If yes, will you promptly disclose those records?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Michael A. Ayele (a.k.a.) W
Anti-Racist Human Rights Activist
Audio-Visual Media Analyst
Anti-Propaganda Journalist
Gender Pronouns: He/Him/His

Work Cited

[i] California Civil Code § 47.1

A communication made by an individual, without malice, regarding an incident of sexual assault, harassment, or discrimination is privileged under Section 47. (...)

A prevailing defendant in any defamation action brought against that defendant for making a communication that is privileged under this section shall be entitled to their reasonable attorney's fees and costs for successfully defending themselves in the litigation, plus treble damages for any harm caused to them by the defamation action against them, in addition to punitive damages available under Section 3294 or any other relief otherwise permitted by law.

This section shall only apply to an individual that has, or at any time had, a reasonable basis to file a complaint of sexual assault, harassment, or discrimination, whether the complaint is, or was, filed or not.

For the purposes of this section, "communication" means factual information related to an incident of sexual assault, harassment, or discrimination experienced by the individual making the communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- (1) An act of sexual assault.
- (2) An act of sexual harassment, as described in Section 51.9.
- (3) An act of workplace harassment or discrimination, failure to prevent an act of workplace harassment or discrimination, aiding, abetting, inciting, compelling, or coercing an act of workplace harassment or discrimination, or an act of retaliation against a person for reporting or opposing workplace harassment or discrimination, as described in subdivision (a), (h), (i), (j), or (k) of Section 12940 of the Government Code.

(4) An act of harassment or discrimination, or an act of retaliation against a person for reporting harassment or discrimination, by the owner of a housing accommodation, as described in Section 12955 of the Government Code.

(5) An act of sexual harassment, as defined in Sections 212.5 and 66262.5 of the Education Code.

(6) An act of harassment or discrimination, or an act of retaliation against a person for reporting harassment or discrimination, based on any of the protected classes enumerated in Sections 220, 221.51, and 66270 of the Education Code.

(7) An act of cyber sexual bullying, as defined in Section 48900 of the Education Code.

https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=CIV§ionNum=47.1.

[ii] **Jason Agan was impossible to miss at Angelo Rodriguez High School. The San Francisco Bay Area teacher was loud and gregarious, a fixture on campus since the Fairfield school opened in 2001. He ran the student government and called himself the man behind the curtain, organizing pep rallies and prom. He taught AP calculus, so advanced math students ended up in his classroom, jostling for his approval and letters of recommendation. Some considered him a mentor who inspired a love of math — and even a second father.**

But for years students also whispered about Agan’s behavior, according to interviews with 14 Rodriguez High graduates, most of whom he had taught. He touched some of them in public in ways that made them uncomfortable, they said, including hugging students and massaging their shoulders. And he seemed fixated on enforcing the dress code, calling out girls whose shorts were too short.

Nearly two decades into Agan’s tenure, and on the heels of the #MeToo movement, students had enough. At least 11 students and one parent submitted written complaints about his behavior to school administrators in 2018, drawing at least two warnings to stop, a KQED and ProPublica investigation found. By January 2019, the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District had taken steps to fire him, suspending him without pay.

Agan pushed back, and nearly a year later an independent panel convened by the state to hear his case deemed him “unfit to teach.” The panel’s decision meant that the popular educator was officially out of the job where he had spent his entire teaching career.

But the panel’s review only addressed his employment at this one school district, and its finding was not shared publicly. It would be up to the state’s teacher licensing agency to

determine whether additional discipline would be imposed, including whether Agan could keep teaching in California public schools.

Over the next three years, Agan was hired at a second school and then a third. During that period, the state issued a one-week suspension of his teaching license for his behavior at his first school. Then, Agan faced another accusation of unwanted touching — this time, by an eighth grader at his second school, according to school records. The state’s teaching credentialing agency did not inform the other schools or the parents of students in Agan’s classes of the full extent of what went on at Rodriguez High.

Agan, now 47, did not respond to multiple requests for an interview, and someone at his address hung up when a reporter rang his apartment buzzer and identified herself. Nor did he respond to questions sent via email or certified mail to his home about students’ accusations and his job history. He previously denied any sexual motivation in touching students, telling the independent panel that he was simply offering students support and encouragement — not massaging them, according to records obtained by the news outlets.

A broad look at California’s Commission on Teacher Credentialing by KQED and ProPublica shows a pattern of delays and inaction, combined with a lack of transparency, that have allowed educators to continue teaching after school districts reported them to the state for sexual harassment or other misconduct of a sexual nature. Agan’s case is one of at least 67 in which the state has not revoked the professional licenses of educators after school districts determined they had sexually harassed students or committed other types of sexual misconduct, according to a review of available records from 2019 through 2025 obtained by the news outlets. At least 14 of those educators were rehired by other schools, and of those, at least 12, including Agan, still work in education, according to a review of school websites and employment records provided by schools.

Anita Fitzhugh, a spokesperson for the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, said the state automatically revokes teachers’ credentials when they are convicted of sexual criminal offenses, but not necessarily when a district determines they have committed sexual misconduct. She said the state Legislature — not the licensing agency — determines the type of misconduct that results in automatic revocation.

The agency appoints a committee to assess noncriminal cases of misconduct, she said. Agan has not been accused of a crime.

“The Commission’s authority balances protecting students as well as the legal rights of educators who have been accused but not convicted of specific crimes,” Fitzhugh said in a written statement.

The agency's disciplinary process is unique among licensing bodies in California in how much is kept secret, Fitzhugh said. The fact that a teacher has been disciplined is noted on a state website of credentialed educators, but the database does not explain why.

In contrast, the licensing bodies governing dozens of other professions in California, including doctors, nurses, police officers and lawyers, make the reasons that disciplinary actions were imposed easily accessible on their websites. And at least 12 states, including Oregon, Washington and Florida, do the same for teachers.

"If our job as teachers is to keep children safe, we have to be held accountable for things we do that could harm them," said Alicia DeRollo, a longtime teacher who served as one of 19 commissioners on California's teacher licensing agency from 2011 to 2020.

Amid this gap in oversight, Agan found two new jobs and remains in the classroom. (...)

For 17 years, Agan taught at Rodriguez High, a sprawling open-air campus nestled alongside rolling hills where cows graze. The school serves the racially diverse commuter town of Fairfield, halfway between San Francisco and Sacramento.

Then in 2018, several sophomores in his accelerated math class reported him to school administrators.

One girl alleged that he took her phone out of her back pocket while she was sitting down taking a test and that he would massage girls' shoulders in class, according to school records. Assistant principal Gary Hiner cautioned Agan to be careful, sharing that students had told him they were uncomfortable when the teacher walked around class and touched them, according to a summary Hiner wrote about the spoken warning.

In March 2018, a father emailed another administrator after Agan wore a shirt to school that used the Pi symbol to spell out "Pimp." The father wrote that a teacher should not be wearing a shirt making light of someone who "sexually exploits people for profit."

This time, assistant principal Allison Klein emailed Agan, reminding him that school was not the place for "physically touching students, inappropriate innuendo, or jokes in poor taste."

But the next school year, more students complained, records show. In October 2018, a student told her school counselor and then Hiner that Agan had come up behind her and started massaging her neck beneath her long hair. The student said she felt violated and froze, unsure of what to do, records show. She talked to her peers about Agan to see if others had similar

experiences, and told Hiner those classmates said he also made inappropriate comments and touched students in his leadership class.

The student was so distraught she asked to transfer out of the math class and had a panic attack two days later in the school psychologist's office, school records show. Neither Hiner nor Klein agreed to be interviewed.

Within weeks, at least nine more students submitted written complaints, alleging that Agan had massaged their shoulders and singled out female students for what they wore.

"This was a case of someone overstepping boundaries, and we're not afraid to call this person out," said Julia Steed, who was a 15-year-old sophomore when she wrote to school administrators alleging that Agan "had tendencies to touch students," including palming her head during class. "We were like, 'Oh no, we're not dealing with this.'"

Steed, now 23, told KQED and ProPublica that she and her classmates were emboldened by the #MeToo movement to speak out as teenagers across the country were gaining more awareness of boundaries and consent. By the end of 2018, the Fairfield-Suisun school board approved the superintendent's recommendation to fire Agan.

Agan objected and demanded a hearing, something tenured California public school teachers facing termination are entitled to. His case would be evaluated by an independent panel, which would decide whether to uphold the district's recommendation.

School districts rarely fire tenured teachers because losing a case is expensive and the teacher can wind up back in the job. Instead, many districts negotiate settlements that allow teachers to resign.

But in Agan's case, Kris Corey, the Fairfield-Suisun superintendent at the time, said she and the school board believed they had a strong case for termination.

"The board said, 'We don't care how much this costs. We are going to a hearing,'" Corey said. "It's the principle of the matter. This is not OK."

For eight days in the Fairfield-Suisun district office beginning in July 2019, the three-member panel, including a teacher selected by Agan, heard testimony from students, teachers and administrators. (...)

Seven students, three administrators, a former guidance counselor and a parent spoke against Agan. Six of the students told the panel that Agan made them uncomfortable by touching them

or commenting on their clothing, including calling one girl “short shorts.” Four of them, including Steed, said they did not feel comfortable going to Agan for extra help with math because they did not want to be alone with him. Several also said they refrained from speaking in class to avoid attracting his attention.

Four former students, three teachers and a staff member spoke on Agan’s behalf. The former students described Agan as a supportive mentor and caring teacher and said they felt at home in his classroom. All four students said he squeezed, rubbed or touched their shoulders, but that his actions did not make them uncomfortable.

One of those students told KQED and ProPublica that her opinion about the teacher’s behavior has changed in recent years. She said she had considered his physical contact normal while in high school. But her perspective shifted as she got older, she said.

“I went to college and talked to people and realized it wasn’t normal,” said the former student, now in her 20s. “Looking back at it, I would have jumped to the other side, to be quite honest.”

During the hearing, Agan testified that he would have stopped touching students’ shoulders if he had been clearly warned, according to a summary included in the panel’s decision. He said he became comfortable with his leadership students, and his actions carried over to math students even though he wasn’t as close with them. He denied massaging students’ shoulders and said students misinterpreted “squeezes or shakes” as massages. He said he did not intend to make students feel uncomfortable and regretted that some students did not feel safe in his class.

One of the administrators, former director of human resources Mike Minahen, told the panel that the details students shared with him during his investigation “weighed heavy” on him. He said it was unusual for high school students to “break the code” and come forward to make a complaint about a teacher, “especially a leadership teacher who has influence over student activities throughout the entire school.” Minahen, who has retired, declined to comment.

In November 2019, the panel unanimously decided Agan should lose his job. Even the teacher chosen by Agan agreed.

“The likelihood of recurrence is high,” the panel wrote in its decision. “Over time he has shown that he cannot or will not exercise good judgment.”

One of the panelists told KQED and ProPublica that she voted to terminate Agan’s employment in part because his alleged behavior continued even after administrators issued warnings.

“His actions were making students, particularly young women, want to not take advanced math classes. They didn’t want to be touched,” said the panelist, who spoke on the condition of anonymity so as not to jeopardize her job in education. “All that directly impacts their access to good colleges because he was a calculus teacher.”

In December 2019, school district officials sent documentation of Agan’s firing, along with details of their investigation, to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, California’s educator licensing agency, as state law requires for public school teachers who resign or are fired for misconduct. The educator licensing agency would decide whether Agan would be disciplined further, such as receiving a public warning, facing a suspension or losing his license to teach in a California public school.

The disciplinary process typically takes one year, according to the agency.

It would take the state licensing board nearly 500 days to decide what to do in Agan’s case. (...)

As the state considered the matter, Agan applied for a job at a Sacramento middle school about an hour away from Rodriguez High in May 2020. It was a time of heightened teacher shortages, especially in subjects like math, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agan provided stellar letters of recommendation from former teaching colleagues in his application, which school representatives provided to KQED and ProPublica in response to a public records request.

Any school searching Agan’s name on California’s credentialing database would have seen a clean record and valid credentials indicating he was legally fit to teach. That’s because while the state licensing agency knew Agan had been fired for what the district described as sexually harassing students, California law prevented the agency from disclosing information about the case. Nowhere [in the online public records](#) did it say that Agan remained under investigation by the agency — let alone any details of his employment record.

In his application for the middle school job, Agan acknowledged that he had been fired after being “accused of inappropriately touching students on the shoulders during class.” He wrote that he disagreed with the dismissal and explained that he would often place his hands on students’ shoulders while helping them.

“Math is a difficult subject for many and my actions were meant as a means of encouragement; a way to say, ‘It’s ok that you’re having trouble, keep trying,’” Agan wrote, adding that he recognized his actions “made some students feel uncomfortable.”

Agan started teaching at Ephraim Williams College Prep Middle School that fall. The 175-person school is

part of the Fortune network of charter schools. Administrators at Ephraim Williams at the time of Agan's hiring did not respond to questions about how the school vetted him.

Former Fortune human resources consultant Rick Rubino, who helped the middle school recruit, interview and hire candidates at the time Agan was applying, said the school was not aware that Agan's former employer concluded that he had sexually harassed multiple students. "Do you think any reasonable school district or principal would hire that person?" Rubino said. "No. So clearly, Fortune School did not get that information."

Rubino said he "would guarantee that somebody at Fortune called the principal at the school where Jason Agan was teaching in Fairfield and got a good report." He said he does not remember making that call himself.

The former principal at Rodriguez High did not respond to questions about a reference check. But a Fortune School spokesperson, Tiffany Moffatt, said school officials follow "all state guidelines and regulations and conduct thorough vetting, making decisions based on the information available to us."

It wasn't until near the end of Agan's first school year at Ephraim Williams that the state licensing agency issued its decision regarding his actions at his first school. In May 2021, the state suspended Agan's license for seven days; two of those days fell on a weekend. The sanction — along with a red flag icon — appeared in the state's public database of credentialed educators. This would be the only visible clue schools would have of anything amiss in Agan's work history.

Corey, the former superintendent of Fairfield-Suisun Unified, told KQED and ProPublica that she was "flabbergasted" that he had only been suspended for seven days.

"It was a real mismatch of what happened," Corey said. "What a disservice it was to those girls."

Steed, one of Agan's accusers, said students had done the right thing and shared their concerns about Agan with their school, only for adults at the state level to give him the opportunity to teach elsewhere.

"What's even the point of going through this whole process?" she said. (...)

In September 2021, a month after Fortune students returned to in-person learning, an eighth grader at Agan's second school complained about his conduct.

The student told her doctor during a routine physical that Agan had touched her lower back,

according to a summary of the complaint.

The girl's mother told KQED and ProPublica that she reported the incident to the principal, who connected mother and daughter with Rubino, Fortune's human resources consultant. The mother told Rubino that Agan was giving her daughter a disproportionate amount of attention.

The girl, who is now 17, spoke to KQED and ProPublica on the condition that only her middle name, Sherelle, be used because she is a minor. Leslie, the student's mother, is also being identified by her middle name to protect her daughter's identity.

In that same meeting, Sherelle told Rubino that Agan removed his hand from her lower back after she asked him to stop, and he returned to the front of the classroom. But he came back moments later and placed his hand on her shoulder, according to a letter of warning Rubino wrote to Agan after interviewing the girl.

"I felt disrespected. I felt uncomfortable. I felt mad," Sherelle told the news outlets about the incident. "I felt like even speaking up didn't matter."

In his letter, Rubino directed Agan to stop touching students and "dial back" his praise for the girl. Rubino also cautioned that failure to comply could result in further disciplinary action, up to suspension or termination.

Agan denied the allegations in a written response to Rubino obtained by KQED and ProPublica. "I would like to be on record that I dispute it being listed as a 'fact' that I touched [the student] on the lower back," Agan wrote. "I have been extremely diligent in avoiding personal contact with scholars due to my previous experience."

Leslie had texted Rubino expressing concern about how Agan was vetted for the job after she said she saw online posts by students at his former school alleging that he had touched them inappropriately.

"Actually, I was the one who investigated the matter in the Fairfield Suisun School District when Mr. Agan was a candidate," Rubino texted back that same day in messages reviewed by KQED and ProPublica. "I also checked social media and Google to see if I could find any information about the incident in Fairfield, but I did not find anything."

Rubino did not answer subsequent questions about the details of his investigation or how much he knew about Agan's conduct at the teacher's previous school.

After the state licensing agency recommends educators be disciplined, California law allows it

to release its findings, which include a summary of the case, to current supervisors and prospective employers who request it within five years. Fortune appears never to have asked for such findings, according to the logs of these requests between 2020 and 2024 provided by the agency to KQED and ProPublica. A Fortune spokesperson did not say why the charter school did not ask for the information. (...)

Leslie said her daughter's experience at Ephraim Williams only worsened after she reported Agan. Math has always been Sherelle's favorite subject. But as the school year went on, her grades in Agan's class plummeted. She needed help but said Agan ignored her.

With just weeks left in the school year, Leslie pulled her daughter out of Ephraim Williams to finish eighth grade at another school.

She only learned about Agan's disciplinary history when KQED and ProPublica contacted her in January. "The whole education system would rather protect him," Leslie said. "You let him loose on all these kids."

Fitzhugh, spokesperson for the teacher licensing agency, said the commission is "committed to keeping all students and schools safe" but is bound by the law in how it disciplines teachers. "The Commission stands ready to implement any additional public protections that the Legislature authorizes," she said.

Starting the following year, in 2022, records show that Fortune offered Agan a role supporting new teachers rather than assigning him his own classroom. Fortune administrators did not respond to questions about why he was offered the position, which he declined because he had received another job offer in the Bay Area.

"Thank you for the last two years," Agan wrote, resigning from the school. "It has meant more to me than you could ever know."

By August 2022, Agan would begin teaching at Clifford School, which serves students in pre-K through eighth grade in Redwood City. He received tenure in 2024.

Wendy Kelly, deputy superintendent at the Redwood City School District, declined to answer questions about Agan's hiring or say whether the school district was aware he had been accused of misconduct at two previous schools. She told KQED and ProPublica that the district, when hiring, typically calls candidates' immediate supervisors and checks the database of licensed educators.

She said school districts rely on decisions by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to "put the best people in the classroom."

"I was pleased to see that the suspension was only seven days," Kelly said of Agan's discipline. "I have to trust that when the CTC reinstates the teacher that the issue has been either resolved, learned from, there's been consequences in place, which is why they're employable to the next organization." *ProPublica*. May 12, 2026. *He Was Fired for Sexually Harassing Students. California Allowed Him to Keep Teaching Anyway*. <https://www.propublica.org/article/california-fired-teacher-sexual-harassment>

A San Francisco Bay Area school district has replaced a middle school math teacher for the remainder of the academic year following an [investigation by KQED and ProPublica](#) that showed he had been accused of inappropriately touching students at two previous jobs.

The Redwood City School District has received at least two new complaints against Jason Agan, according to the parents who filed the complaints as well as emails from the district to the parents saying it is investigating both.

The news outlets found that the state teacher licensing agency allowed Agan to keep his credentials following his 2019 firing from a high school in the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District for what district officials characterized as sexual harassment of female students. At least 11 students and one parent at Angelo Rodriguez High School submitted written complaints about Agan's behavior to school administrators, drawing at least two warnings to stop, KQED and ProPublica's investigation found.

Students in that district testified during Agan's dismissal hearing that he made them uncomfortable by massaging their neck or shoulders as well as commenting on female students' clothing, prompting an independent panel to deem him "unfit to teach," according to records obtained by the news outlets.

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing, the agency responsible for educators' licenses, suspended Agan's teaching license for seven days in 2021, after he had already gotten another job teaching math at Ephraim Williams College Prep Middle School in the Fortune network of charter schools in Sacramento, an hour away from his first school.

The discipline — along with a red flag icon — is noted in the state's public database of credentialed educators, but no specific reason is given for the sanction. Anyone searching his name in the database would see he still held credentials indicating he was legally fit to teach.

At Ephraim Williams, Agan's second school, he drew another complaint of unwanted touching, prompting a written warning from Fortune's human resources consultant. He left the school in June 2022 and started teaching math at Clifford School, a prekindergarten through eighth grade school in Redwood City, that August. That is where he was teaching when the investigation was published.

David Weekly, president of the school board in Redwood City, told KQED and ProPublica on Saturday that

the board plans to review the district's hiring process after Clifford parents, in a [public letter](#), called for such a review and for a third-party investigation into whether district officials were aware of prior complaints against Agan.

"Parents deserve to know their kids are safe and to know that the district is doing a good job carefully vetting those who will be working closely with their children," Weekly said in a written statement to the news outlets.

Redwood City School District Superintendent John Baker told the Clifford School community on Thursday that the district has enlisted a third-party investigator to review its hiring practices and procedures, according to a letter that the district spokesperson shared with the news outlets.

Deputy superintendent Wendy Kelly previously told KQED and ProPublica that the district, when hiring, typically calls candidates' immediate supervisors and checks the database of licensed educators. She declined to answer questions about Agan's hiring or say whether the school district was aware he had been accused of misconduct at two previous schools.

Clifford principal Kristy Jackson emailed parents in the hours after the story was published to outline the district's hiring policies and said that while she could not discuss confidential personnel matters, "To date, I have not had any concerns about this employee related to student safety."

Agan, who has not been accused of a crime, did not respond to requests for comment about the new complaints after he was removed from the school. Nor did he previously respond to questions sent via email and certified mail to his home about students' accusations and his job history. He has denied any sexual motivation in touching students, stating during his dismissal hearing from the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District that he touched students' shoulders to offer them support and encouragement but that he did not massage them.

More than a dozen parents showed up at Clifford the morning after the story published last week to express concern about Agan's employment to the principal, according to two parents who were there. Just before noon that same day, Jackson and Baker emailed the Clifford School community saying that the district would "soon be welcoming a substitute teacher to support students in Mr. Agan's classroom."

A Redwood City school district spokesperson said a substitute was brought in to teach Agan's classes starting May 13 but declined to comment on his employment status. The spokesperson did not answer a question about the new complaints.

Parents expressed "profound alarm and outrage" and also demanded Agan's immediate resignation or removal from any position involving contact with students, according to their letter to the Clifford principal, school board, state lawmakers, California State Superintendent

Tony Thurmond and the teacher licensing agency. More than 170 people signed the letter, according to a parent involved in organizing the petition.

"We recognize the seriousness of these matters and believe that transparency, accountability, and student safety must take precedence over institutional reputation or liability concerns," the parents wrote. "Children deserve learning environments where they are safe, respected, and protected. Parents and guardians deserve honesty and accountability from the institutions entrusted with their children's care."

Brie Hanni, a parent who signed the letter, said she broke down after learning about Agan's disciplinary history and pulled her seventh grade daughter, who was in Agan's class, out of school the day KQED and ProPublica published the story.

Hanni says Agan's case illustrates a systemic gap in transparency, and the state should specify the reasons educators are disciplined.

The licensing bodies governing dozens of other professions in California, including doctors, nurses, police officers and lawyers, make the reasons that disciplinary actions were imposed easily accessible on their websites. And at least 12 states, including Oregon, Washington and Florida, do the same for teachers.

"I think a statewide, if not nationwide, question is: What do you do with these teachers who are 'unfit to teach'?" Hanni said.

Thurmond, who is running for governor, told KQED and ProPublica that any teacher who "abuses or harasses students should never teach again." Thurmond said that as governor, he would propose legislation to automatically revoke licenses for educators found by schools or independent panels to have committed sexual harassment. A spokesperson for his campaign said the legislation would be retroactive.

Xavier Becerra, the former U.S. health and human services secretary, former state attorney general and a leading candidate for California governor, "believes California should have a system that acts swiftly, prioritizes the protection of students, and gives parents and schools confidence that serious misconduct is being handled appropriately and transparently," said Jonathan Underland, Becerra's campaign spokesperson, in a statement.

"Student safety has to come first," Underland said. "The allegations described in this reporting are deeply disturbing, and no student or family should ever feel unsafe at school."

Gov. Gavin Newsom's spokespeople did not respond to requests for comment on Agan's case and the state's disciplinary process for educators. Neither did six other gubernatorial candidates seeking to replace

him.

State Sen. Josh Becker, who represents Redwood City, shared ProPublica and KQED's investigation on social media and [wrote](#): "Completely unacceptable. What is going on here? The legislature needs to dig into this which includes me."

A spokesperson for Becker said he was not available for comment this week.

During a Redwood City school board meeting last week, Clifford parent Josh Levinson said he had submitted a Title IX complaint against Agan to the district after reading the article and speaking with his seventh-grade son. Title IX is the federal law that prohibits sex-based discrimination and harassment in schools.

"What I've heard from my son is that this pattern hasn't changed," Levinson said at the board meeting, referencing Agan's history of misconduct claims. "When someone's deemed unfit to teach, that should be a massive red flag, not something brushed aside because the database says they're technically employable."

Levinson declined to speak about the specifics of his complaint.

Another Clifford parent, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to protect his child's identity, told the news outlets that he also filed a complaint against Agan after reading the article and speaking with his child. The parent said his child reported seeing Agan touch students' shoulders and yell during class.

In his job application to Redwood City that the district shared with KQED and ProPublica, Agan did not disclose that he had been fired from Rodriguez High; instead, he wrote that he left because he "wanted to explore new challenges and opportunities." He also checked a "Please don't contact" box under Rodriguez High.

Kelly, the Redwood City deputy superintendent, said in a previous interview that the district contacts prior employers even when candidates instruct them not to. She also said that school districts trust the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to vet teachers, and those whose credentials are valid are considered employable.

In his earlier application to teach at Ephraim Williams, Agan did acknowledge that he had been fired from Rodriguez High after being "accused of inappropriately touching students on the shoulders during class." He wrote that he disagreed with the dismissal and explained that he would often place his hands-on students' shoulders while helping them.

A spokesperson for the state's teacher licensing agency, Anita Fitzhugh, has emphasized that state law

limits what information the agency can share. Only after the agency recommends educators be disciplined can it release its findings, which include a summary of the case, to prospective employers. But that information is released only if a school requests it within five years of when the discipline was recommended. In Agan's case, that window passed earlier this year.

Redwood City did not ask for such findings before hiring Agan in 2022, according to logs of requests made during that time that the teacher licensing agency provided to KQED and ProPublica.

Kelly previously confirmed that the school had not requested the findings, saying that she discovered only last year that it could do so.

Agan is one of at least 67 educators for whom the state has not revoked professional licenses after school districts determined they had sexually harassed students or committed other types of misconduct of a sexual nature, according to a review of available records from 2019 through 2025 obtained by the news outlets. ProPublica. May 22, 2026. California Teacher Previously Fired for Sexual Harassment Is No Longer in the Classroom After New Complaints.

<https://www.propublica.org/article/redwood-city-teacher-sexual-harassment-investigation>

[iii] National Council on Disability (NCD). January 30, 2018. Not on the Radar: Sexual Assault of College Students with Disabilities.

<https://www.ncd.gov/report/not-on-the-radar-sexual-assault-of-college-students-with-disabilities/>

[iv] Bing/MSN Unwelcome and Unapproved Query "Michael Ayele Jennifer Lawrence."

...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)