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Amy Virshup  
New York Times Deputy Metro Editor  
620 Eighth Avenue,  
New York, New York 10018

Dear Ms. Virshup,

On February 12, following a conversation about Kate Taylor's story, "[At Success Academy School, a Stumble in Math and a Teacher's Anger on Video](#)," the *Times* gave a statement to Alexander Russo, which he published on his [blog](#):

"We would have done this story if that video were filmed in a traditional public school, a Catholic school, or an independent school, and we would have explored the question of whether or not it represents larger problems within those institutions."

Over the last week, we took the opportunity to research potential abuses that have occurred inside schools since the incident at Success Academy you so loudly trumpeted in the pages of the *Times*. What we found were dozens of horrifying examples of misconduct ranging from direct physical abuse of a special-needs child, to inappropriate touching of young girls, to incredibly demeaning behavior toward kids.

Some of the adults who committed these transgressions were fired. Many were not. But these disturbing incidents all had two things in common.

1. They all happened inside New York City district schools, indicating exactly the kind of "larger problem" you referenced in your note.
2. The *New York Times* didn't report on a single one of them.

Descriptions of all the incidents that other New York media found worth reporting on are cited below, but even a cursory glance at just a few of these episodes leads any unbiased reader to the conclusion that physical and sexual abuse is rampant, if not systemic, throughout the New York City school system.

- In February 2015, Alexander Perry, a teacher at P.S. 118 in Queens, was arrested and fired for **physically assaulting** a 10-year-old special-needs student. Audio of the incident was published by several news organizations, is included [here](#) and is absolutely horrifying.

- In December 2014, Omil Carrasquillo, a science teacher at P.S. 249 in Brooklyn, pleaded not guilty to **inappropriately touching** four elementary school girls. Authorities said he had earlier been accused of groping five other girls at the school.
- In October 2014, Richard Parlino, a teacher who was removed from the classroom at P.S. 101 in Queens for using **corporal punishment** to discipline children, was given a new job at the school — despite substantiated claims that he used physical force on children.
- In June 2015, teacher’s assistant Jesus Lorenzo was arrested for groping a 13-year-old girl with Down syndrome near I.S. 318 in Brooklyn, where he works.
- In November 2015, teacher Mark Valentinetti of P.S. 83 in the Bronx was arrested and charged with slapping a teen twice inside the school.

While the above examples may read like a police blotter, they all occurred inside or near classrooms where our children go to school.

This disturbing pattern of abuse, neglect and outright disregard for children inside traditional public school classrooms clearly indicates a systemic problem, a pattern of violence against children. Yet the so-called “paper of record” has to date devoted none of its considerable resources to cover these stories, let alone investigate this systemic pattern of abuses. Perhaps even more puzzling is the fact that other outlets have extensively reported on many of these incidents

In a week, with a computer and Google, Success Academy discovered nearly 50 such incidents that occurred over the last 18 months. Imagine what a newspaper that isn’t responsible for educating 11,000 children and has incredible resources to perform investigative journalism could uncover.

Instead, the *Times* has focused much of its education coverage during this same time period around a combination of feel-good stories about the district and continued attacks on Success Academy.

- Around the same time that the horrifying audio of Mr. Perry’s abuse was covered by outlets all around the city, the *Times* penned a [story](#) reporting that Brooklyn Collegiate’s girls basketball team lost 117-8 to Francis Lewis High School.
- Days after Carrasquillo was accused of inappropriately touching four elementary school girls, the *Times* authored a fluff [piece](#) on New York City

teachers scoring well under the new evaluation system.

- And soon after Parlino's new administrative job was revealed, the *Times* instead [wrote](#) 1,200 words about the [implications](#) of city's decision to lift its cellphone ban.
- A month after Valentinetti was arrested, the *Times* pronounced in two separate articles that Success Academy would become more like the district schools, due to a [shortened school day](#) — a schedule that set it [apart](#) from “public schools.”

As I said on the day the *Times* published its article about Charlotte Dial, her actions were wrong. Rather than being tolerated, her actions were dealt with appropriately: She was reprimanded, suspended and retrained, and now she has been permanently vilified by the *Times* and the many other media outlets that picked up your story. It is hard to imagine how she might be further punished for what happened.

I have never said that Ms. Dial's actions should be excused, but I refuse to fire a teacher dedicated to teaching and improving for the simple sake of better PR. What the *Times*, and legions of other critics, seem unable to understand is that there is no contradiction in my acknowledging Ms. Dial's misconduct and simultaneously charging the *Times* with bias.

The *Times* has chosen to focus exhaustively on Success Academy's mistakes, having now produced 12 articles in a year's time, while devoting scant attention and resources to reporting absolute horrors committed against children in district schools. Such willful neglect represents a disservice not only to *Times* readers – but, more importantly, to the roughly 1 million children in New York City's district schools who could use your help.

Given the examples presented above, we call on the *New York Times* to immediately follow through on its pledge “to explore the question of whether or not [these incidents] represent larger problems within those institutions.”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eva Moskowitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eva" being more prominent and the last name "Moskowitz" following in a similar style.

Eva Moskowitz  
Founder & CEO  
Success Academy Charter Schools

## Inside NYC Schools, But Not Reported in NYT 2014-2015 School Year

**August 27, 2014** – Report reveals assistant principal at Bread and Roses High School altered the grades of his son – and his son’s basketball teammates – to ensure passing grades.<sup>1</sup>

**September 4, 2014** – Teacher Richard Parlino at P.S 101 in Queens is removed from the classroom following multiple accounts of verbal and physical abuse. Parlino is later reassigned to a \$75,000 “technology instructional support” position at the same school.<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>3</sup>

**September 24, 2014** – Elementary school teacher Omil Carrasquillo at Brooklyn’s P.S. 249 pleads guilty to 22-count felony indictment, accused of fondling nine girls as young as 8. Carrasquillo is later charged on 22 more felony counts, including first-degree sexual abuse. He is removed from teaching.<sup>4</sup>

**September 28, 2014** – The Department of Education says it brought charges against 826 teachers over the past two school years; 271 remained open and 340 ended in undisclosed settlements. According to the New York Post, some of the settlements included:

- “A Queens teacher who denied squeezing a kid’s neck and throwing an object that struck another kid was offered a \$10,000 settlement, but bargained it down to \$2,500 and returned to the same middle school.
- “A Brooklyn teacher rated ‘unsatisfactory’ three years in a row saved her job by paying the DOE \$6,500 and taking workshops on lesson planning, instruction and classroom management. She was put in a pool of unassigned teachers who substitute -- and kept her \$100,049-a-year salary.
- “A Brooklyn social worker making \$82,147 a year, who billed the DOE for service to kids she didn’t provide, kept her job by paying \$3,000.
- “Bernadette Camacho, a former teacher at the Gateway School of Environmental Research and Technology in The Bronx, agreed in May 2010 to pay \$6,500 and

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<sup>1</sup> Stephen Rex Brown, Ben Chapman. “[Harlem asst. principal changed son’s grades in high school computer system – and is fined \\$7,000.](#)” *New York Daily News*, August 28, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Eli Rosenberg. “[Heavy-handed Forest Hills teacher yanked from classroom, but parents at P.S. 101 remain unsatisfied.](#)” *New York Daily News*, September 4, 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Eli Rosenberg. “[Disciplined Queens elementary teacher has a new job on campus.](#)” *New York Daily News*, October 29, 2014.

<sup>4</sup> Allison Fox. “[Brooklyn teacher Omil Carrasquino accused of fondling more students; 9 victims total.](#)” *AMNewYork*, December 8, 2014.

see a shrink for a year to keep her job after emotional outbursts with students. Her case became public later when kids accused her of cursing and insulting them at Hillcrest HS in Queens. Finally, an arbitrator approved her firing.”<sup>5</sup>

**November 2, 2014** – Investigation finds ex-principal of the Academy of Language and Technology in the Bronx misappropriated school funds, spending over \$11,000 on gifts for students.<sup>6</sup>

**November 13, 2014** – A lawsuit accuses teacher Eva Malikova at the High School for Math, Science and Engineering shamed a suicidal student by accusing her of cheating – leading the 17-year-old to drown herself. A city official said the lawsuit was under review.<sup>7</sup>

**November 23, 2014** – Principal Charlette Pope of Banana Kelly High School in the South Bronx is investigated after a staff member finds fabricated teacher evaluations.<sup>8</sup> Pope was demoted to the Assistant Principal pay level and assigned to Absent Teacher Reserve in 2016.<sup>9</sup>

**December 1, 2014** – John Bowne High School Principal Howard Kwait named in two new federal lawsuits – staff claim sexual harassment and bullying in retaliation for reporting grade inflation.<sup>10</sup> Kwait kept his job.<sup>11</sup>

**December 10, 2014** – Brooklyn middle school teacher from MS 88 charged with endangering the welfare of a child after leaving her children unsupervised to go drinking, get tattoo.<sup>12</sup>

**January 11, 2015** – The de Blasio administration promoted former principal Elif Gure-Perez to a top DOE position despite a lawsuit charging that she created a “hostile, race-based work environment,” the New York Post reports.<sup>13</sup>

**January 14, 2015** – Staten Island basketball coach Eduardo Maisonet of Port Richmond High School is arrested for allegedly sending sex videos to a 15-year-old boy.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Susan Edelman. “Bad teachers ‘pay to stay’ An educator who ‘grabbed and shook’ this student paid a DOE fine and now he’s back to work!” *New York Post*, September 28, 2014, accessed via LexisNexis, 2/21/16.

<sup>6</sup> Susan Edelman. “Principal ‘raffled’ DOE’s 12G,” *New York Post*, November 2, 2014.

<sup>7</sup> Julia Marsh. “Suicide ‘cheat’s family sue city.” *New York Post*, November 13, 2014.

<sup>8</sup> Susan Edelman, “[Principal faked classroom observations at HS: staffers](#),” *New York Post*, November 23, 2014.

<sup>9</sup> Susan Edelman, “[Principal demoted after faking classroom evaluations: officials](#),” *New York Post*, January 24, 2016.

<sup>10</sup> Ben Chapman, John Marzulli. “[Queens high school principal accused of sexual harassment, inflating grades in two federal lawsuits](#),” *New York Post*, December 3, 2014.

<sup>11</sup> Selim Algar, “[Pervy principal keeps his job despite draining city in legal fees](#),” *New York Post*, June 11, 2015.

<sup>12</sup> Ben Chapman, Edgar Sandoval and Thomas Tracy. “Tat’s no way to act as a mom Teacher leaves own kids to get ink, drink,” *New York Daily News*, December 12, 2014.

<sup>13</sup> Susan Edelman. “[It’s ‘racist’ to the top in DeB’s Dept. of Ed.](#),” *New York Post*, January 11, 2015.

<sup>14</sup> Frank Donnely. “[Coach is latest in line of educators here to face allegations of trysts with kids](#),” *Staten Island Advance*, January 14, 2015.

**January 14, 2015** – Gym teacher John Ramirez of Origins High School in Brooklyn is caught on video at a pizza shop kissing a student who graduated the previous year. Ramirez was removed from the classroom and assigned to the so-called “rubber room.”<sup>15</sup>

**January 22, 2015** – Theater teacher Waris Grant at PS 256 in Bedford-Stuyvesant arrested, charged with paying a 16-year old student to perform oral sex.<sup>16</sup>

**January 23, 2015** – Special education teacher Alexander Perry at PS 118 in Queens is arrested by school safety agents for punching a ten-year old student in the face, after accusing the student of cheating on a test.<sup>17</sup> The incident is caught on audiotape. DOE says it intends to fire Perry.<sup>18</sup>

**January 25, 2015** – A DOE report finds that former Assistant Principal Stephen Fucarino at Thomas Edison Career and Technical High School fell in love with a teacher and did her college homework for her as she tried to earn a school-administration degree. Fucarino resigned in 2014.<sup>19</sup>

**February 9, 2015** – DOE launches an investigation after school staff at PS 269 in Brooklyn accused principal of using school funds to install a private gym in the school building.<sup>20</sup>

**March 1, 2015** – DOE report says Michael Gregorio, a former teacher at Susan E. Wagner High School still employed by DOE, wrote threatening messages to another teacher on the chalkboard at Susan E. Wagner High School.<sup>21</sup>

**March 15, 2015** – DOE report states that Nadine Sudlow, a teacher at Liberation Diploma Plus High School on Coney Island, had sexual relations with a male student and made a sex tape.<sup>22</sup>

**March 15, 2015** – Despite demands of dramatic change at the failing Automotive High School, officials rehired former principal Caterina Lafergola-Stanczuk, who in the past

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<sup>15</sup> Reuven Blau. “[Teacher’s caught on tape now.](#)” *New York Daily News*, January 15, 2015.

<sup>16</sup> Sophie Jane Evans. “[New York elementary school teacher, 37, arrested on child sex charges ‘after he paid 16-year-old boy for oral sex.’](#)” *Daily Mail*, January 23, 2015.

<sup>17</sup> Chauncey Alcorn and Denis Slattery. “[Pupil-punch rap teach released.](#)” *New York Daily News*, January 25, 2015.

<sup>18</sup> Erik Badia and Lisa L. Colangelo. “[Ax for teach heard beating boy on tape.](#)” *New York Daily News*, February 18, 2015.

<sup>19</sup> Kate Briquetelet. “[Principal ‘loved’ to cheat.](#)” *New York Post*, January 25, 2015.

<sup>20</sup> Pete D’Amato. “[Principal ‘spends school funds on private workout room’ at failing Brooklyn elementary school.](#)” *Daily Mail*, February 9, 2015.

<sup>21</sup> Susan Edelman, “[Gun-owning ‘threat’ teacher keeps job.](#)” *New York Post*, March 1, 2015.

<sup>22</sup> Amber Jamieson and Susan Edelman, “[High school teacher made sex tape with student: report.](#)” *New York Post*, March 15, 2015.

faced accusations of school mismanagement -- and altering regents scores so that students would graduate.<sup>23</sup>

**March 15, 2015** – Bronx principal Charlette Pope of Banana Kelly High School is caught using her Department of Education credit card to buy services from a website claiming it can “craft your public image” and remove “anything you don’t want exposed.”<sup>24</sup>

**March 21, 2015** – Parents at PS 186 in Queens protested after discovering that teacher James Rampulla Jr. – suspended for buying lavish gifts for a student and sending him inappropriate text messages – was reinstated.<sup>25</sup>

**March 22, 2015** – Richard Maddel, head of Monroe Academy for Visual Arts & Design in the Bronx is reprimanded after confiscating a student’s shoe and locking it in a vending machine, after she propped her feet on his desk.<sup>26</sup>

**March 26, 2015** – Principal Linda Hill of Dreyfus Intermediate School in Staten Island announces plans to retire after an investigation found she had misappropriated \$800 in funds.<sup>27,28</sup>

**March 27, 2015** – Four teachers and an aide are removed from PS 111 in Queens after they failed to notice that a group of teenagers had turned a tutoring session into a “fight club” for first graders. The negligent staffers were “reassigned” to tasks away from children, DOE said.<sup>29</sup>

**March 29, 2015** – A newly published book reveals former New York City public education teacher Ronald Fliegelman built explosives for far-left radical group the Weather Underground in the 1970s. Fliegelman is now retired.<sup>30</sup>

**April 16, 2015** – Teacher Madeline Luciano of PS 18 in upper Manhattan files for reinstatement after being fired for allegedly encouraging eighth graders to bully a fellow student in 2014.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> Susan Edelman, “[Brooklyn high school principal rehired despite failing record](#),” *New York Post*, March 15, 2015.

<sup>24</sup> Susan Edelman, “[MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL Using tax \\$\\$ to scrub rep.](#),” *New York Post*, March 15, 2015.

<sup>25</sup> Susan Edelman and Amber Johnson, “[Parents protest after learning school hired sleazy teacher](#),” *New York Post*, March 21, 2015.

<sup>26</sup> Susan Edelman. “[Principal caught on camera confiscating student’s shoe](#),” *New York Post*, March 22, 2015.

<sup>27</sup> Zak Koeske. “[Dreyfus Intermediate principal double-billed district for overtime, DOE investigation finds](#),” *Staten Island Advance*, February 27, 2015.

<sup>28</sup> Diane C. Lore, “[Dreyfus principal tells staff she plans to retire in June She was subject of city probe regarding misappropriation of funds](#),” *Staten Island Advance*, March 26, 2015.

<sup>29</sup> Ben Chapman, Caitlin Nolan and Corky Siemasko. “[Fight Club KOD 5 staffers 4 kids moved Schools boss’ safety vow](#),” *New York Daily News*, March 27, 2015.

<sup>30</sup> Gary Buiso. “[EXCLUSIVE: Brooklyn retiree is terrorist next door Weatherman behind NPYD bombing unmasked – as former city teacher](#),” *New York Post*, March 29, 2015.

<sup>31</sup> Lisa Colangelo, Ben Chapman, and Larry McShane. “[City teacher fired for student-bullying incident demands justice, sues city to be reinstated](#)” *New York Daily News*, April 16, 2015.

**May 8, 2016** – Queens substitute teacher Gloria Chamorro is arrested during a drug raid in Ozone Park. She was suspended without pay, DOE said.<sup>32</sup>

**May 16, 2016** – A lawsuit alleges that math teacher Nina Gribetz at Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School drove a 12-year-old girl to suicide by bullying and harassing her in front of other students.<sup>33</sup>

**May 16, 2015** – Bronx teacher Jonathan Blum of Dreamyard Preparatory School is arrested after trying to arrange a date with an underage girl on Craigslist.<sup>34</sup>

**May 24, 2015** – Coney Island principal Greta Hawkins of PS 90 Edna Cohen is suspended after failing to immediately report possible child abuse. DOE said she would remain reassigned pending a misconduct investigation.<sup>35</sup>

**May 30, 2015** – An arbitrator rules that teacher Tia Jackson of PS 59 in Brooklyn, who allowed two four-year-olds to wander away from class in the same day, cannot be fired from job. Instead, Jackson is fined \$5,000.<sup>36</sup> DOE officials said Jackson is now a “roving substitute” earning \$73,460 per year.

**June 6, 2015** – A lawsuit alleges that principal Carlos Borrero of the High School for Community Leadership in Queens told students he would take them to a strip club if they focused on their school work.<sup>37</sup>

**June 26, 2015** – Teacher’s assistant Jesus Lorenzo is arrested for groping a 13-year-old girl with Down syndrome near Intermediate School 318 in Brooklyn, where he works. Lorenzo is suspended without pay.<sup>38</sup>

**July 5, 2015** – A DOE report states that special education teacher Robert Cain of James Madison High School in Queens had sexual relations with a student every day for two months. Cain left his job in July 2014. Cain is the fifth teacher accused of sexual misconduct at James Madison High School in recent years.<sup>39</sup>

**July 19, 2015** – Principal Maria Rosado of PS 207 in the Bronx is accused of hiring two members of her son’s salsa band and the brother of another band member. Rosado was previously disciplined for letting two of her grandkids attend her schools.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> Eric Jankiewicz, “[Queens substitute teacher arrested in drug raid: DA](#),” *Queens Times Ledger*, May 8, 2015.

<sup>33</sup> Julia Marsh. “[Family claims ‘bully’ teacher drove their daughter to suicide](#),” *New York Post*, May 16, 2015.

<sup>34</sup> Aaron Short and Natasha Velez. “[‘Kid sex’ rap on teacher](#),” *New York Post*, May 16, 2015.

<sup>35</sup> Susan Edelman, “[Principal suspended for failing to report child abuse claim](#),” *New York Post*, May 24, 2015.

<sup>36</sup> Yoav Gonen. “[Loser a winner: ‘Missing tots’ teach keeps job](#),” *New York Post*, May 30, 2015.

<sup>37</sup> Selim Algar. “[Queens teach: Principal was sleazy as pi](#),” *New York Post*, June 6, 2015.

<sup>38</sup> No author. “[NYPD says teachers’ assistant groped 13-year-old girl](#),” *Associated Press State & Local*, June 26, 2015.

<sup>39</sup> Susan Edelman, Aaron Short, Stephanie Pagones, and San Eelman. “[Four sex scandals rock one hanky-panky high school](#),” *New York Post*, July 5, 2015.

<sup>40</sup> Susan Edelman, “[Bronx principal accused of hiring family friends](#),” *New York Post*, July 19, 2015.

**August 9, 2015** – DOE probes the finances of PS 36 in Harlem after \$7,000 raised by students disappears.<sup>41</sup>

## **2015-2016 School Year**

**September 20, 2015** – Former math teacher and Assistant Principal Pelagia Papoutsis of William Cullen Bryant High School in Queens had an affair with one of her students, the student alleged. Papoutsis was removed from the school and reassigned to duties away from students, DOE said.<sup>42</sup>

**September 27, 2015** – Administrators at William Cullen Bryant HS in Queens employed students to repair and service computers, but never paid them, the students said.<sup>43</sup>

**October 11, 2015** – Staffers at P224 in Queens allegedly restrained and put into an isolation room special education students, often without logging the incidents or informing parents of the incidents, a former teacher alleged.<sup>44</sup>

**October 22, 2015** – The Department of Education is sued by the parents of a 14-year-old girl, who say the department failed to inform them that teacher Adiyemi Prowell of Renaissance Leadership Academy had allegedly abused five students in addition to their daughter.<sup>45</sup>

**October 25, 2015** – A city investigation finds school aide Raymond Gonzalez at East Bronx Academy for the Future impregnated a student. Gonzalez was fired in January 2015, DOE said.<sup>46</sup>

**October 28, 2015** – The family of a 7-year-old Brooklyn girl blamed the staff at PS 250 in Williamsburg for not responding quickly enough after the girl choked on a sandwich at school, leaving her brain dead.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>41</sup> Susan Edelman and Aaron Short. "[City probes missing student funds at Harlem elementary school](#)," *New York Post*, August 9, 2015.

<sup>42</sup> Tom Momborg. "[Long Island City school probed for alleged sex affair in latest scandal](#)," *Queens Times Ledger*, September 20, 2015.

<sup>43</sup> Susan Edelman. "[HS nerds get stiff lesson Bryant nixes pay](#)," *New York Post*, September 27, 2015.

<sup>44</sup> Susan Edelman. "[Students' 'prison' Qns. School isolated, restrained kids: teach](#)," *New York Post*, October 11, 2015.

<sup>45</sup> Julia Marsh. "[Perv teach 'hush' DOE 'kept quiet'](#)," *New York Post*, October 22, 2015.

<sup>46</sup> Susan Edelman, "[School staffer impregnated 'bullied' student: report](#)," *New York Post*, October 25, 2015.

<sup>47</sup> Sophia Rosenbaum and Dana Suchelli. "[Lunch-kid tragedy Brain-dead as kin rip school's choke response](#)," *New York Post*, October 28, 2015.

**November 7, 2015** – Teacher Henry Bueno of the Academy for Language and Technology in the Bronx is charged with sending a lewd video to a 14-year-old student and offering to pay her for sex. The DOE said he has since been “reassigned.”<sup>48</sup>

**November 8, 2015** – Teacher Annan Boodram of MS 206 in the Bronx was disciplined after making sexually inappropriate remarks to students -- telling one “your boobs are staring at me” and another “those things are bothering me.” Boodram was given a \$7,500 fine and 10 hours of sensitivity training, but allowed to keep his job.<sup>49</sup>

**November 10, 2015** – Teacher Mark Valentinetti of P.S. 83 in the Bronx is arrested and charged with slapping a teen twice inside the school. The report did not state whether Valentinetti was fired or disciplined.<sup>50</sup>

**November 22, 2015** – After being banned from working with students following a 2014 sex scandal, Annie Schmutz Seifullah, the former Robert Wagner Secondary School of Arts and Technology in Queens, is given a new teaching job at Automotive High School in Brooklyn.<sup>51</sup>

**December 9, 2015** – Teacher Dean Bethea of the Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science & Engineering is arrested and charged after allegedly buying a student alcohol and trying to kiss her. The DOE called the allegations troubling and said Bethea has been reassigned.<sup>52</sup>

**December 27, 2015** – Teacher David Suker is awarded \$260,000 in back pay and allowed to keep receiving his salary when a Manhattan Supreme Court judge rules in his favor. Suker was originally removed from the classroom in 2011 after he failed to report his arrest at the Occupy Wall Street protests. As of December 2015, DOE officials said Suker “remains reassigned.”<sup>53</sup>

**January 4, 2016** – William Romero, a janitor at Robert F. Kennedy Community High School in Queens, is arrested for allegedly providing two teens with “cash and gifts” in exchange for them masturbating in front of him “so he could subsequently sell their sperm to a sperm bank.” DOE officials said Romero’s had been terminated and is no longer eligible to work in any DOE schools.<sup>54</sup>

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<sup>48</sup> Rocco Parascandola, Kerry Burke and Ben Chapman. “[PERVY TEACH CUFFED Offered kid % for sex: cops](#),” *MailOnline*, November 7, 2015.

<sup>49</sup> Susan Edelman, “[Schools OK boob rube: Teacher keeps job](#),” November 8, 2015.

<sup>50</sup> Allison Fox. “[Mark Valentinetti, Bronx teacher, charged with slapping teen](#),” *amNewYork*, November 10, 2015.

<sup>51</sup> Susan Edelman. “[‘Cougar in cub’s den’ ‘Sex’ teach back in class](#),” *New York Post*, November 22, 2015.

<sup>52</sup> Kiri Blakely. “[Teacher at prestigious Manhattan school is charged with trying to seduce a 16-year-old student ‘after taking her to the Met museum and plying her with alcohol’](#),” *Daily Mail*, December 9, 2015.

<sup>53</sup> Susan Edelman. “[He can’t be fired! DOE loses \\$1m bid to ax Occupy teach](#),” *New York Post*, December 27, 2015.

<sup>54</sup> Jason Nuckolls. “[School Custodian Allegedly Sold Students Semen At Sperm Bank](#),” *Metro – New York*, January 4, 2016.

**January 13, 2016** – Queens gym teacher Joy Morsi, who taught at Grover Cleveland High School, pleads guilty to having sex with two underage students in 2013. Morsi was suspended from her assignment but not immediately fired or stripped of her yearly salary. Per her plea deal with the district attorney, Morsi surrendered her certificate to teach in the state of New York.<sup>55</sup>

**January 21, 2016** – Principal Lauren Fontana of PS 6 on the Upper East Side “stonewalled” the parents of a learning-disabled third grader who was bullied by her classmates. The US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit found that the principal’s conduct violated the US Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.<sup>56</sup>

**January 24, 2016** – An investigation finds that 12 Department of Education administrators used city credit cards to throw parties and purchase goods that have not been accounted for, and failed to document their purchases. Dorita Gibson, Chancellor Farina’s second-in-command, had \$3,574 in private parking charges that she said were “business-related.”<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>55</sup> Liz Goff. “[Disgraced Ex-Teacher Pleads Guilty to Sex With Students](#),” *Queens Gazette*, January 13, 2016.

<sup>56</sup> Susan Edelman. “[Bullied Girl Wins ‘Class’-Action Suit](#),” *New York Post*, January 21, 2016.

<sup>57</sup> Susan Edelman. “[Probe finds ‘dirty dozen used DOE credit cards for personal expenses’](#),” *New York Post*, January 24, 2016.