Lawsuit filed against Otsego School District

by Marcus Espinoza | Tuesday, March 21st 2017
OTSEGO, OH WNWO — The Otsego School District is facing claims they repeatedly ignored and potentially destroyed evidence of harassment of a young female student at the hands of two brothers at Otsego Elementary School.

The identity of the parents and child is being withheld at this time in light of the sensitive nature of the subject matter.

A lawsuit was filed Monday by the girl's parents claiming in part that "The Otsego School District failed to protect their daughter from sexual assault and severe harassment over a three-year period."

According to the lawsuit, the now 11-year-old endured "unthinkable" treatment by two male classmates (who are brothers) beginning in 2nd grade.

The accusations include being taken to the ground on the bus on April 18, 2013 by one brother as he pulled her pants down and spanked her in front of everyone on the bus. The other brother would also allegedly cover her mouth and asked "if she liked it" while the other brother spanked her.

According to the lawsuit - the bus driver stopped the bus, pulled up the girl's pants and then continued on her route without report to the parents about the incident.

The parents claim the district delayed reporting the incident to authorities for the better part of a week.

The parents say the school district had a video camera on the bus that had captured some or all of the incident. However the lawsuit claims the school district destroyed the recording after it was shown to the parents.
Benefit concert held for South Toledo apartment fire victims

by Toi Creel  |  Sunday, June 4th 2017
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A benefit concert hosted for apartment fire victims (courtesy: NBC 24 news).

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3 photos (/news/local/gallery/benefit-concert-held-for-south-toledo-apartment-fire-victims#photo-3)

(/news/local/gallery/benefit-concert-held-for-south-toledo-apartment-fire-victims#photo-5)
Almost two weeks ago a fire ripped through the Andover Apartment Complex in South Toledo, causing two million dollars in damages and displacing hundreds.

"My daughter went to school with a couple of the kids that live in those apartments," said Distillery Bar owner Bryan Pero. "She said that they lost everything and I said...well let's see what we can do."

Bryan made a few calls including friend and Acoustics for Autism executive director Nicole Khoury.

"These are people, for us south enders, that we see at the grocery store," said Khoury. "These are our people and our community and how can you not help these families?"

They decided to plan a benefit concert to let the fire victims know that they are not forgotten, tapping into local businesses, musicians, and more.

"Every dime that we raise is going to go into an account that we've established separately for the fire victims," said Khoury.

Those affected by the fire have to go online and fill out an application. Once verified they'll be able to receive the split proceeds via gift cards.

Toledo "South Enders" say it's the least they could do.

"There are 1 million devastating events happening in the world," said Khoury, "But when you find an entire building and group of people that lost absolutely everything, you have to step in."

If you or someone you know has been affected by the fire, they can fill out and submit this form (http://www.424degrees.com/andover-apartments/)
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