

 - to jesse.bacon ☐

Friday, May 19, 2023, 12:36 AM (52 days ago)

**DISPLAY EXTERNAL RESOURCES** ☐

Hi Dr. Bacon,

I was a student at Bullitt Central High School and graduated in May 2015. Throughout my time at BC I had a wildly inappropriate relationship with my then band director, Rodney Stults. It has taken nearly a decade for me to accept that I was groomed and sexually abused by this man, who I worshipped and adored as a child and as his student. I have never reported anything because I assumed it would go nowhere or somehow blow back worse on me, despite being a child at the time. Rodney called me late at night regularly while I was a student at Bullitt Central to tell me he loved me, how beautiful I was, how special I was, etc when I was 16-18 years old. At the time I thought he was my friend, but I was a child and he was a grown man calling a child to groom them.

Rodney took my senior class of band students on a trip to Red River Gorge where he was drinking alcohol, brought a gun, and slept in a tent with all of the GIRLS who attended the trip. He followed me through the woods that night and watched me use the bathroom while shining a flashlight on my vagina, claiming he "wanted to make sure I could see where I was." He slept pressed up against my body all night and kept reminding me that he had a gun "just in case there were bears." I stayed awake all night because I thought he might rape me. While he didn't, he did feel my body and kissed me on my face and neck repeatedly until he finally fell asleep. On this trip, I had just turned 18 a few days before (conveniently for him). The next day he pulled me away from the others and made me swear never to tell anyone anything.

I am 26 years old, married, and I own a thriving private flute studio. I'm a professional flute player and have a successful career as a teacher myself and musician. But I'm still haunted by the things that took place with Rodney. I don't take allegations of sexual abuse lightly especially as a teacher myself, but I refuse to carry this information with me any further. Rodney Stults made me think he was my friend and took advantage of me when no one was around. To this day, he takes students on this trip after they graduate. While they are legal adults, I would hope the administration in BCPS would want to know that this is still taking place and that children are not safe with this person.

I was diagnosed with PTSD three years ago from the experiences I had with Rodney. He texted and called me late at night when I was a minor, visited my place of work as a minor, told me I was beautiful, he loved me, I shouldn't wear makeup because I'm "prettier" that way when I was a minor, told me I shouldn't flirt with boys because it was leading them on when I was a minor, frequently told me I needed to save myself for my husband and explained his own sexual experiences in detail when I was a MINOR, and after I graduated he messaged me frequently to tell me not to have sex with my boyfriend, who is now my husband and was deeply disturbed by a former teacher of mine messaging me those things. During class with Rodney, he would frequently encourage myself and my female friends to SIT ON HIS LAP, hug him, let him kiss our cheek, etc.

Please fire this man. Young girls are not safe around him and as a teacher who has taught in schools for years, I have never seen behavior quite like his in a school system. I wish an adult in BCPS had noticed these things going on and could have saved me years of pain. I've attached screenshots of our late night conversations while I was 16/17 as well as the disturbing messages we exchanged after I had graduated.

Please respond to this email. It's taken me years to gather the courage to share this with the people who need to hear it and quite frankly I won't let go of this until something is done.

To Stacey: I sincerely pray you do not realize that this is the man you married, but I think you do. If you do know that this is how he has behaved for decades and have stayed silent for whatever reason, shame on you. I wish you had noticed what I was going through then.

To Melanie: You unfortunately were a witness to Rodney's behavior for years. I know he is your friend. Somewhere deep down, I know in your bones you believe all of this is true. Please don't defend him because he is your friend. No, I didn't misread something or misunderstand him. I was abused and I think you know it too.

I'm happy to provide our full thread of conversations while I was a student, unless Rodney decides to attempt to delete them first. I do intend to go public with this information.

Best,

[REDACTED] (formerly [REDACTED])