



Olga Hugelmeyer
Superintendent of Schools

January 31, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety and well-being of our students is always a top priority for the Elizabeth Public Schools.

The school district has been working in cooperation with the Union County Prosecutor's Office with regard to an arrest made of an Elizabeth Public Schools teacher for alleged misconduct.

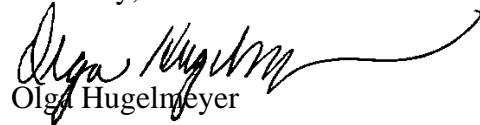
We are informing you of this arrest because of his recent service as a teacher at Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell Academy Annex.

Attached please see the press release from the Union County Prosecutor's Office detailing the arrest. It is important to note that in addition to the information provided in the release, the district, upon knowledge of the alleged misconduct, immediately contacted law enforcement, fully cooperated and assisted in the investigation, and the teacher was not allowed to return to the school premises.

Anyone with further information is being urged to contact Elizabeth Police Officer Johanna Rivera of the Special Victims Unit at 908-348-0999.

Please know that the safety of our children and our team members is always a top priority and informing the parents and guardians of our school community in a timely manner is of utmost importance. We are grateful for the professional and rapid attention given to this matter by law enforcement agencies.

Sincerely,



Olga Hugelmeyer

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release
January 31, 2022
Contact: Mike Sheets, Union County Prosecutor's Office

Elizabeth teacher arrested for sexual misconduct

An Elizabeth high school teacher has been charged after having committed acts of sexual misconduct with a minor student over the course of several months, Union County Prosecutor William A. Daniel, Elizabeth Police Director Earl Graves and Police Chief Giacomo Sacca jointly announced Monday.

Bipradas Mookerjee, 72, of North Brunswick, has been charged with third-degree aggravated criminal sexual contact and third-degree endangering the welfare of a child.

In mid-January, the Elizabeth Police Department received a report of a sexual assault upon a 14 year-old female, which was referred to the Prosecutor's Office's Special Victims Unit. That investigation revealed that the alleged incidents occurred from October of 2021 into January of this year, while Mookerjee worked as a math teacher at Frank J. Cicarell Academy in Elizabeth, according to Unit Supervisor and Assistant Prosecutor Caroline Lawlor, who is prosecuting the case. The 14 year old victim was a student at the school during the period of the alleged criminal acts, Lawlor said.

Mookerjee was arrested without incident last Tuesday and lodged in the Union County Jail. He was subsequently released after a pretrial detention hearing in Union County Superior Court, and is currently on supervised release awaiting his next court appearance.

Anyone with further information about Mookerjee is being urged to contact Elizabeth Police Officer Johanna Rivera of the Special Victims Unit at 908-348-0999.

Convictions on third-degree criminal charges are commonly punishable by 3 to 5 years in state prison.

These criminal charges are mere accusations. Each defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.