

Dear Rogers Public Schools

I Colton Looper am Submitting my resignation letter as a teacher and Coach at RHS. I hope you will accept this resignation effective today, 8-29-22. I submit this letter due to personal issues and current circumstances. I apologize for the untimeliness of this submission. I appreciate my time and opportunity at Rogers Public Schools.

Sincerely,
Colton Looper
Colton Looper

8-29-22

[Signature]

7-31-22

DO NOT RE-HIRE

Statement of Alleged Conduct

Colton Looper, RHS Wrestling Coach

Code of Ethics Investigation – Standard 1 - An educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom.

Preliminary information:

Officials from Rogers Public Schools received an anonymous letter in mid-July, 2022, indicating that the Wrestling Coach at Rogers High School, Colton Looper, was having sex with a female student-athlete. District officials called him in and questioned him about the letter. He denied the anonymous allegation and stated he had no idea why someone would state such. He said it might stem from an incident in Oklahoma where he used to coach from a couple of years ago where he sent an opposing student-athlete a text wishing her good luck at the state competition. The district was unable to substantiate any truth to the allegation since it was sent anonymously and the Coach adamantly denied the allegation. The anonymous letter was sent to Rogers High School, Rogers Public Schools, and to Colton's wife.

Code of Ethics Violation – Standard 1 – Incident Notes/Timeline

On, Thursday, August 25, I received an email from a parent, [REDACTED] (see attached), requesting to meet with me concerning a situation about her daughter, [REDACTED]. The concern dealt with her daughter having inappropriate interactions with the wrestling coach at Rogers High School. I agreed to meet with her the following day in her classroom. The parent is also a district employee and teaches at Elmwood Middle School.

We met on Friday, August 26, 2022, at 1:25 pm in her classroom. In the meeting, I confirmed with her that the allegation involved Colton Looper, Head Wrestling Coach at Rogers High School. She stated that she began having suspicions in the fall of the 2021-22 school year that her daughter might be having an inappropriate relationship with Coach Looper, and she had heard of rumors going around that this might be the case. She questioned [REDACTED] about the rumors and suspicion, but [REDACTED] denied that there was anything inappropriate occurring. The suspicion rose to a level of concern to the point of where [REDACTED] requested a meeting with Coach Looper to discuss her concerns. Coach Looper responded that he would meet with her and they did so in December of 2021 at the home of [REDACTED]. In their conversation, [REDACTED] stated that she asked Coach Looper if her daughter might have a crush on him, and she asked him if [REDACTED] had done anything that was inappropriate towards him. Coach Looper stated that [REDACTED] had not done anything inappropriate. [REDACTED] then asked Coach Looper if he had done anything inappropriate towards [REDACTED]. Coach Looper stated he had not and that nothing was going on between him and [REDACTED]. According to mom, as the year progressed, the rumors did not subside. At no time was any school or district level administrator aware of any rumors or concerns of an inappropriate relationship. In February of 2022, [REDACTED] became upset with Coach Looper over a decision he made to bring team members together to have a "powwow" to discuss concerns some of the female wrestlers were having with each other. [REDACTED] felt that Coach Looper placed [REDACTED] in a confrontational situation that was not necessary, and that it

caused her mental stress and anguish. She called Coach Looper to discuss the incident, and during that conversation, she asked again if there was anything going on between him and her daughter that might be inappropriate. Again, Coach Looper denied any inappropriate behavior.

████████ continued to have suspicion that ██████ was not being truthful with her about Coach Looper. After wrestling season concluded, the team hosted their annual sports banquet to celebrate team and individual accomplishments. At the banquet, Coach Looper recognized ██████ for her achievements and as he concluded his comments, ██████ stated that Coach Looper made a comment that raised her suspicion again. Coach Looper stated that ██████ “was awesome” as he was placing the microphone on the podium, and the way he stated it made her concerned. She again confronted ██████ about Coach Looper and asked him if they were involved in a sexual relationship. Again, ██████ denied it, but hinted to her mother that there was more than just a coach/student-athlete relationship. Following the sports banquet, ██████ took ██████ to a college visit in Wichita, Kansas. It was on that trip that ██████ had shared more information that indicated that there was more than just a coach/student-athlete relationship. ██████ also shared that ██████ had changed from a very happy individual to someone who was struggling with depression that developed over the course of her senior year at Rogers High School. As summer approached and ██████ was preparing to attend college in Kansas, she began divulging more information to her mother about the relationship she had with Coach Looper. By mid-July, ██████ admitted to her mother that she and Coach Looper had been sending messages to one another via social media (Snapchat, TikTok, Instagram) that was very sexual in nature (see text message). Messages between the two would last for 2-3 days at a time and then he would “ghost her” and nothing would be sent for two to three weeks. The messaging would resume for 2-3 days and stop. This cycle continued throughout most of the school year according to what ██████ told her mom. ██████ stated that ██████ began blocking several individuals in July of 2022, including Coach Looper, in an attempt to get a fresh start on life. ██████ stated to her mom that when the messaging started back in September of 2021 that contained sexual overtones that Coach Looper stated, “If we are going to do this, we have to do it in a way that we don’t get caught.” ██████ told her mother that they never had a physical sexual relationship.

I concluded my meeting with ██████, and returned to the Admin Building at Rogers Public Schools. I called the Arkansas State Police – Suspected Child Abuse Hotline – to report the allegation. The Hotline officials took all the information and determined not to investigate due to the age of the victim at the time of the incident. The Hotline took all the information and assigned a referral number – 21618942. ██████ turned eighteen in June of 2021, and she was eighteen at the time the inappropriate messaging/relationship started. I met with District Superintendent, Dr. Jeff Perry, and Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Dr. Roger Hill, to disclose the information that ██████ had shared with me. We agreed to call Coach Looper to discuss the allegations. Keith Kilgore, District Athletic Director, was contacted and instructed to bring Coach Looper to the Admin Building for a meeting. The following individuals were in the meeting on Friday, August 26, 2022:

Colton Looper – Rogers High School Wrestling Coach

Charles Lee – Assistant Superintendent for General Administration
Dr. Roger Hill – Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Keith Kilgore – Athletic Director

During the meeting, Coach Looper was questioned about the allegations. Originally, he denied all allegations. However, after he was presented with several comments that [REDACTED] had made about the nature of the relationship, he admitted that [REDACTED] was telling the truth, including the 2-3 days of messaging and stopping the messaging for two to three weeks. Coach Looper stated the reason for this cycle was because he would feel guilty of what he was doing and he knew that it was wrong. He would resume the messaging after [REDACTED] would make a comment to him at school. He admitted to sending sexually explicit text, pictures, and material to [REDACTED] via social media sites and he admitted to telling her that, "If we are going to do this, we have to do it a way we don't get caught." He also stated that he had used an old Snapchat account that he had established in Oklahoma, and that it was not his current Snapchat account. In fact, he said he deleted the Snapchat account when [REDACTED] blocked him sometime in July of 2022. He confirmed the timeline of events and stated that the messaging of inappropriate materials began in September of 2021, and ended around July of 2022.

I spoke with [REDACTED] on Friday, August 26, 2022, at approximately, 5:40 pm to question her about the messages that were sent between her and Coach Looper. She told me that the messages were sexual in nature, primarily just what they would like to do to one another sexually, and pictures of themselves in their underwear. She stated that she realized it was a mistake but she continued to exchange messages via social media for most of the 2021-22 school year. She stated at times that Coach Looper would send sexually explicit materials for 2-3 days and then quit for two or three weeks. [REDACTED] stated to me that this began in September of 2021, and lasted through early July of 2022.

Updated #1 - 8/29/2022

I called [REDACTED] on Monday, August 29, 2022, to conduct a follow up interview from our conversation on 8/26/2022. I told her I had some more questions pertaining to the messaging between her and Coach Looper. I asked her to describe in detail what the content of the messages were. She stated that they both had stated that they wanted to have sex with one another and how they would like to have sex with one another. I asked her about the pictures that were sent back in forth between the two. I asked her if she had ever sent a picture of herself to Coach Looper that showed any exposed body parts. She stated that she had and that the pictures included pictures of her breast and genitalia. I asked her if Coach Looper had ever sent pictures of his exposed body parts. She stated that he had and that some of the pictures included pictures of his penis. I then asked her about the number of times that she had been in a vehicle alone with Coach Looper. She stated that there were numerous times that she was in the car with him during school hours. He would take her to the Kum and Go station on New Hope Road close to Rogers High School to buy a drink and/or snacks. She also stated that he took her home once. I asked her if either one of them had touched one another in a sexual manner when they were alone in the car. She said, "Yes." I asked her if he had ever touched her breast. She stated

that he had. I asked her if he had ever touched her in her genitalia area. She said that he had and I asked if there was ever any penetration. [REDACTED] stated that there was penetration. I asked if it was with his fingers. She said, "No." She stated that he had penetrated her with his penis. I asked her, "So you did have sex?" She replied, "Yes." I asked her to describe the details of when this happened. She told me that she met him after school hours at the TJ Maxx parking lot in the Pinnacle Mall area. He had been at a "wrestling function" and they decided to meet there afterwards. The meeting at TJ Maxx was set up through messaging. Once there, she stated that she got in the vehicle with him and things began progressing in a sexual manner. She stated it was in the TJ Maxx parking lot on either a Thursday or Friday in the fall (October or November) when they had sex. I asked her if he used a condom, and she stated that he did. I informed [REDACTED] that someone from the Arkansas Department of Education – Ethics Department would probably be contacting her, as well as local law enforcement officials.

I called the Arkansas State Police -- Suspected Child Abuse Hotline again to report the update. I was told that this would have to be a separate incident since sex was alleged in this particular report. Again, they took the information but stated they would not investigate due to the age of both parties involved at the time the incident took place. The referral number for the second report is 21162173.

I contacted the Rogers Police Department on Monday, August 29, 2022, to provide all information for a legal investigation. Corporal James Templin with the Rogers Police Department took the information to begin his investigation.

Update #2 – 8/29/2022

Colton Looper returned to the Rogers Public Schools Administration Building on the afternoon of 8/29/2022 to turn in his keys, his identification badge, and to tender his resignation effective 8/29/2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Lee, Assistant Superintendent for General Administration
Rogers Public Schools