

# **CONFIDENTIAL Investigation Report**

RE:

Investigation; MSAD 75 Hockey Team

DATED:

March 11, 2025

TO:

File

FROM:

Hannah L. Wurgaft, Brann & Isaacson

## I. Introduction

I was engaged by Maine Administrative School District 75 ("MSAD 75" or the "School District") to investigate concerns of hazing, bullying, and harassment on the high school hockey program. I was given independence to conduct this investigation, including the discretion to select witnesses for interviews, request relevant documents, and otherwise conduct an independent outside investigation.

## II. Scope of the Investigation and Procedural History

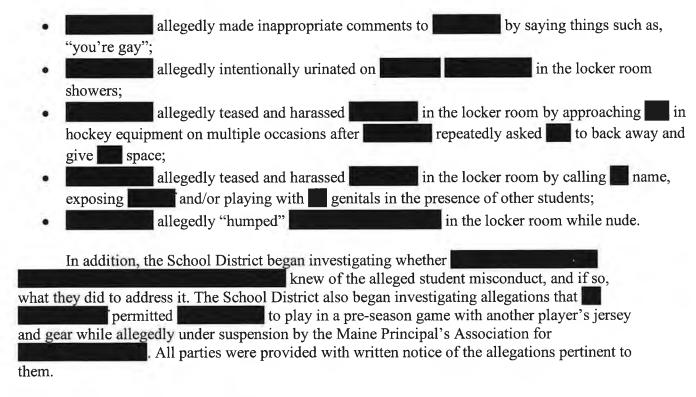
On or about January 4, 2025, the School District learned of allegations that students on the hockey team may have engaged in hazing, bullying, and harassment of other students on the hockey team. The School District learned of the following allegations:

•	On or about November 22, 2024, while on the bus home from a hockey game in
	Rockport, allegedly pulled down the pants and underwear of
	put hands around seems 's neck, pulled into the aisle of the bus, and pushed face into genitals.
•	On or about December 30, 2024, in the locker room at Hebron Academy,
	allegedly forcibly put fingers in second 's mouth/throat while being restrained by
	. It is alleged that was on top of and was nude
	during this incident.
•	allegedly sent harassing messages to regarding the altercation at
	Hebron Academy.

MSAD 75 initiated an investigation under the U.S. Department of Education's 2024 Title IX Final Rule (34 C.F.R. Part 106, Federal Register Vol. 89 No. 83, April 29, 2024, p. 33474), School District policy ACAA-2020 and accompanying school procedures, as well as policies JFCF and ACAD.

During the initial witness interviews, these additional allegations of student misconduct were raised:





On the afternoon of January 9, 2025, the 2024 Title IX Final Rule was vacated by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky. *See Tennessee v. Cardona*, No. 2:24-cv-00072-DCR-CJS (E.D. Ky. Jan. 9, 2025). Pursuant to the U.S. Department of Education's 2020 Title IX Rule (34 C.F.R. Part 106, Federal Register Vol. 85 No. 97, May 19, 2020, p. 30026), ACAA-2020, and accompanying school procedures, MSAD 75's Title IX Coordinator subsequently filed a formal complaint of alleged Title IX sexual harassment. Because the allegations related to the same set of facts and circumstances, the School District consolidated the allegations into one formal complaint.

Interviews were conducted between January 6, 2025 and January 30, 2025. Some witnesses and parties were interviewed twice, and one individual was interviewed three times. Most interviews took place in person at MSAD 75, however, a few interviews took place by phone or over Zoom to accommodate schedules and for efficiency. All parties were advised of their right to have an advisor present, such as an attorney. All students interviewed were given the opportunity to have parents and/or an advisor present.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> During the course of the investigation, additional allegations of misconduct were made against school. The School Department determined it did not have grounds to file a formal complaint against under the 2020 Title IX Final Rule, nor did the complaining witnesses desire to file a formal complaint. The allegations were nonetheless investigated under School District Policies ACAA-2020, JFCF, and ACAD.



All parties and their parents/advisors had an equal opportunity to review the evidence obtained as part of the investigation directly related to the allegations pertinent to them in the formal complaint. The evidence record was provided to the parties on February 6, 2025, and the parties were given 10 calendar days to submit a written response to the record. The parties were also given the opportunity to request additional interviews and to submit any relevant materials.  submitted a written response and video exhibit, which are included in the Appendix.  provided a response by email and submitted exhibits, including a document entitled "Confidential Findings: Title IX Complaint" from the Lisbon School Department <sup>2</sup> and a Client Alert from Drummond Woodsum dated February 5, 2025 entitled, "Wait – What? The 2020 Title IX Rules are Back."  submitted a written response and exhibits.  written responses to the evidence record, and submitted an additional response to the investigation report on March 8, 2025. Each of these documents is enclosed in the appendix. Relevant information from the parties' written responses and exhibits has been incorporated into this report, along with the relevant information obtained during the course of the investigation.
February 24, 2025, against for lack of jurisdiction. In addition, the School District determined there is not sufficient evidence to satisfy the burden of proof that it is more likely than not the allegations made against constitutes sexual harassment under the 2020 Title IX Rule, and dismissed the allegations against on February 24, 2025. The School District provided each Respondent with written notice of the dismissal of allegation(s) pertaining to them. <sup>3</sup> The School District has not dismissed the allegations as to responsibility for sexual harassment under the 2020 Title IX Rule or any other school policies or procedures. In addition, the School District has not reached a determination as to whether have violated any other school policies, such as policies ACAD and JFCF. was provided notice of the School District's dismissal determinations and the right to appeal under the 2020 Title IX Rule on February 24, 2025.
III. Applicable Policy Definitions and Provisions.
Policy ACAA-2020
Harassment includes, but it not limited to, verbal abuse and other offensive conduct based on race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ancestry or national
<sup>2</sup> This document states the investigator interviewed three witnesses. It does not appear as though the investigator interviewed the "Respondent." The document "  "It is not evident from the report whether the Lisbon School Department afforded the parties the procedural protections required by the 2020 Title IX Rule. <sup>3</sup> For ease of reference, this report and appendix retains the identifiers for each "Respondent," despite the dismissals.



origin, or disability.

Under federal Title IX regulations, sexual harassment includes the following conduct on the basis of sex which takes place within the context of the District's education programs and activities ...

"Hostile environment" sexual harassment: unwelcome conduct based on sex that a reasonable person would determine is so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies an individual's equal access to the District's education programs and activities

Under Maine law, sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature in the following situations... such conduct has the purpose and effect of substantially interfering with a student's academic performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

All school employees are required to report possible incidents of harassment or sexual harassment involving students to the Affirmative Action Officer/Title IX Coordinator. Failure to report such incidents may result in disciplinary action.

All reports and complaints of harassment or sexual harassment against students shall be addressed through the procedures promulgated by the Superintendent or their designee that are consistent with this policy.

#### Student Sex Discrimination/Sexual Harassment Procedures – Procedure B

"Harassment": Oral, written, graphic, electronic or physical conduct relating to an individual's actual or perceived membership in a protected category that is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to interfere with or limit that individual's ability to participate in the school unit's programs or activities by creating a hostile, intimidating or offensive environment.

"Sexual harassment": Under Maine law, this means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature in the following situations ... Such conduct has the purpose and effect of substantially interfering with a student's academic performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

"Sexual Harassment": Under the federal 2020 Title IX regulations, sexual harassment includes the following conduct on the basis of sex which takes place within the context of the school unit's education programs and activities...



"Hostile environment" sexual harassment: Unwelcome conduct based on sex that a reasonable person would determine is so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies an individual's equal access to the school unit's education programs and activities:

## Policies ACAD/JFCF

Maine Law defines injurious hazing as any action or situation, including harassing behavior that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of any school personnel or a student enrolled in a public school.

Injurious hazing also includes any activity expected of a student as a condition of joining or maintaining membership in a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses or endangers a student, regardless of the student's willingness to participate in the activity.

Injurious hazing activities of any type, either on or off school property, by any student, staff member, group or organization affiliated with this school unit, are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times.

"Harassing behavior" includes acts of intimidation and any other conduct that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of a student or staff member.

"Acts of intimidation" include extortion, menacing, direct or indirect threats of violence, incidents of violence, bullying, statements or taunting of a malicious and/or derogatory nature that recklessly or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health of another person, and property damage or theft.

No administrator, faculty member, or other employee of MSAD No. 75 shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate injurious hazing activities. No student, including leaders of any student organizations or school-sponsored teams, shall plan, encourage, or engage in injurious hazing activities.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate measures, Administrators, professional staff, and all other employees who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and include dismissal.

In the case of an organization affiliated with MSAD No. 75 that authorizes hazing, penalties may include rescission of permission for that organization to operate on school property or to receive any other benefit or affiliation with the school unit.

Persons not associated with MSAD No. 75 who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to ejection from school property and/or other measures as may be available under



the law.

## Policy JICK

Bullying and other forms of mistreatment are detrimental to the school environment as well as student learning, achievement and well-being. Mistreatment interferes with the mission of the schools to educate their students and disrupts the operations of the schools. Bullying and other forms of mistreatment affect not only students who are targets but also those who participate in and witness such behavior. These behaviors must be addressed to ensure student safety and an inclusive learning environment.

It is not the Board's intent to prohibit students from expressing their ideas, including ideas that may offend the sensibilities of others, or from engaging in civil debate. However, the Board does not condone and will take action in response to conduct that interferes with students' well-being, the educational mission of the M.S.A.D. No. 75 schools, or the operation of the schools.

#### II. Prohibited Behavior

The following behaviors are prohibited:

- 1. Bullying;
- **2.** Cyberbullying;
- 3. Harassment and Sexual Harassment (as defined in Board Policy ACAA Student Protection from Harassment and Sexual Harassment);
- 4. Retaliation against those reporting such defined behaviors; and
- 5. Making knowingly false accusations of bullying behavior.

Any person who engages in any of these prohibited behaviors that constitutes bullying shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary actions.

#### III. Bullying and Cyberbullying Defined

"Bullying" and "Cyberbullying" have the same meaning in this policy as in Maine Law.

- A. Bullying" includes, but is not limited to, a written, oral or electronic expression or
- a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof directed at a student or students that:
- (1) Has, or a reasonable person would expect it to have, the effect of:
- (a) Physically harming a student or damaging a student's property; or
- **(b)** Placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm or damage to the student's property;

#### OR

- (2) Interferes with the rights of a student by:
- (a) Creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment for the student; or
- (b) Interfering with the student's academic performance or ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or privileges provided by a school;



#### OR

- (3) Is based on a student's actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, physical or mental disability, gender (included identity of expression), sex, sexual orientation, or any other distinguishing characteristic, or is based on a student's association with a person with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, and that has the effect described in subparagraph (1) or (2) above. (These behaviors might also meet the criteria for harassment as defined in Board Policy ACAA Student Protection from Harassment and Sexual Harassment.)
- **B**. "Cyberbullying" means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including, but not limited to, a transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted by the use of any electronic device, including, but not limited to, a computer, telephone, cellular telephone, text messaging device and personal digital assistant.

## IV. Application of Policy

- **A.** This policy applies to any student, school employee, contractor, visitor or volunteer who engages in conduct that constitutes bullying or retaliation, all of whom have the responsibility to comply with this policy.
- **B.** This policy applies to bullying that:
- 1. Takes place at school or on school grounds, meaning: a school building; property on which a school building or facility is located; and property that is owned, leased or used by a school for a school-sponsored activity, function, program, instruction or training. "School grounds" also includes school-related transportation vehicles.
- **2.** Takes place while students are being transported to or from schools or schools sponsored events;
- **3.** Takes place at any school-sponsored event, activity, function, program, instruction or training; or
- 4. Takes place elsewhere (such as through the use of technology), but only if the bullying also infringes on the rights of the student at school as set forth in this policy's definition of bullying.

### IV. Information Reviewed and Considered During the Investigation

Each student on the 2024-2025 MSAD 75 varsity hockey roster was interviewed during this investigation. The head coach, assistant/JV coach, and volunteer coaches were also interviewed, along with the Athletic Director, a bus driver, and two students affiliated with the varsity hockey team. Documents reviewed in connection with this investigation include:

- Messages from the "Eagles Hockey 24-25" snapchat group
- Snapchat messages exchanged between players on the team



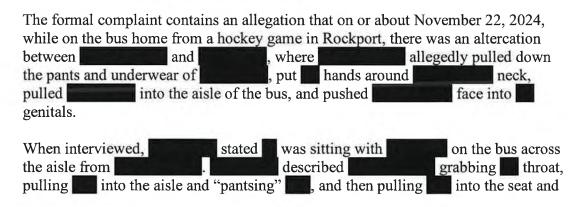
- Text messages, email communications, and call logs documenting correspondence between the MSAD 75 Athletic Department and the Maine Principals' Association
- 2023-2024 Annual Review issued by the MSAD 75 Athletic Department to
- MSAD 75 Athletics Handbook and Student Athlete Code of Conduct
- MPA Handbook and 2024-2025 Ice Hockey Bulletin
- MSAD 75 2024-2025 Hockey Schedule
- 2024-2025 Winter Coaches' Meeting Agenda
- Lisbon School Department "Confidential Findings: Title IX Complaint" dated January 14, 2025
- Written responses and exhibits submitted by or on behalf of

The School Department attempted to retrieve surveillance footage from the November 22, 2024 bus ride, but the relevant footage was recorded over and did not exist as of the first full week of January 2025.

## V. Information Gathered

MSAD 75 employs two coaches to oversee co-op varsity and junior varsity high school hockey teams. The co-op includes MSAD 75 (Mt. Ararat High School or "MTA"), Lisbon High School, Morse High School, and the Hyde School. During the 2024-2025 season, 15 students on the varsity roster were from MSAD 75, six students were from Lisbon, and three students were from Morse. There were no students from Hyde on the varsity team this year. The team primarily uses the ice rink at Bowdoin College for its practices and home games. There are a number of locker rooms at the Bowdoin College ice rink and the team does not necessarily use the same locker room for each practice or game.

#### 1. Bus incident on or about November 22, 2024



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> emailed the Superintendent on February 24, 2025. Although past the submission deadline, the email contains arguments about the investigation and evidence contained in the record. It was therefore considered by the investigator and is included in the Appendix.



putting face into crotch. described other students on the bus laughing while this was going on. stated were present on the bus, sitting towards the front of the bus, during this incident. stated he moved to an empty seat a couple of rows up, towards the front of the bus, for the remainder of the ride. apparently told
When asked about recollection of the bus ride home from Rockport, stated was sitting across the aisle from and they were playing on their phones. stated that came to the back of the bus and tried to sit on and on stated both and pushed down while trying to get him to stop.  I grabbed by the shoulders to hold down.  pushing face into groin/crotch.
stated he was present on the bus. said the "tried to keep up front with ," but started talking and "before knew it was gone." stated yelled at the players to sit down and "cut it out."
During a second interview, described trying to lay/sit on told down so that would stop. "pantsing" when asked if any of clothing came off on the bus, such as and socks, did not recall that.
initially stated had no knowledge or memory of an incident between on the bus ride home from Rockport. During a second interview, stated was worried about getting friends in trouble during our last interview, but since recalled additional information that could share. recalled sitting across from and playing on phone. described coming back from the front of the bus, jumping on and getting in face. said to "knock it off" and "cut the shit." said pushed away. said it was "not that serious."
Five other witnesses described observing or having some knowledge of the altercation between and and on the bus ride home from Rockport, as summarized below:
• heard and and "messing around" in the back of

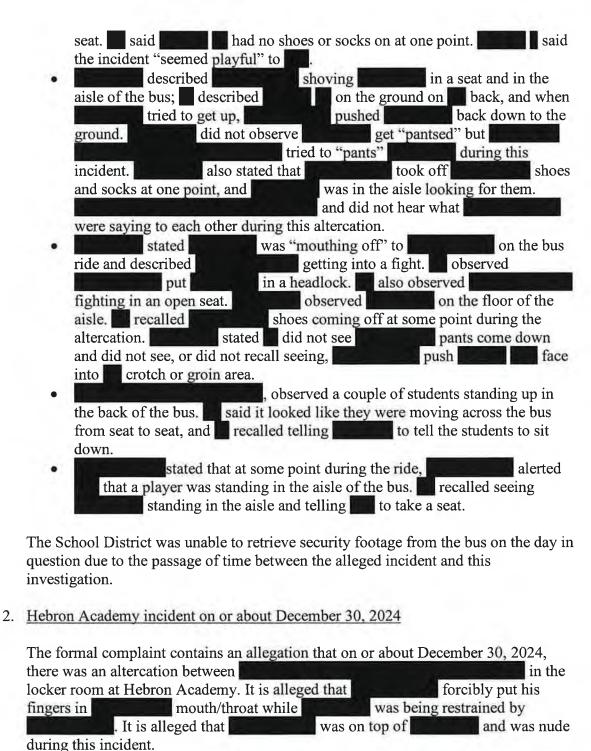
the bus. It turned around and saw and and and in the same



During first interview,

was in the shower, and

because hates them.



described the incident as follows:

for throwing pickles, and

started throwing pickles at

blamed

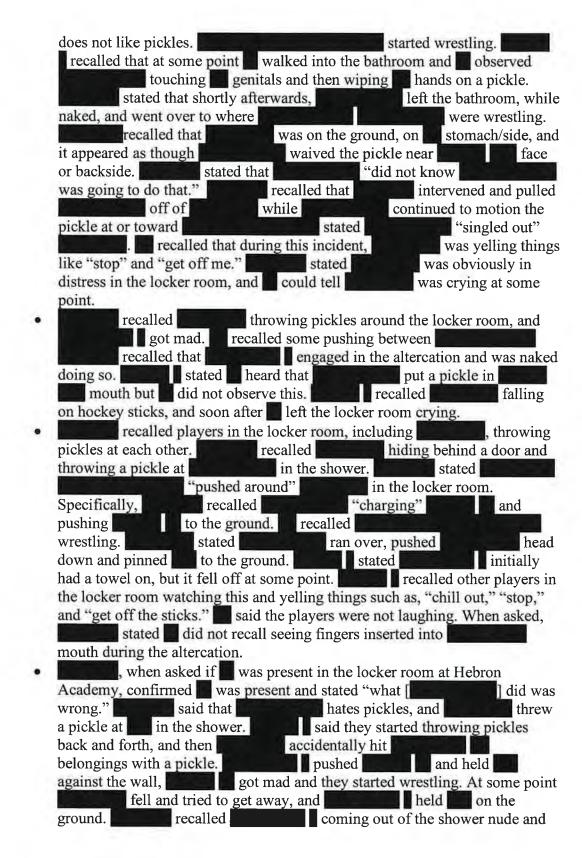


threw them back at		threw
pickles back and forth at each other.	threw a pickle that hit	
bag, and then	started "roughhousing." This	
roughhousing escalated and	into the hock	•
	alled that at some point was on	the ground
	nude, and stuck fingers in	
mouth and throat. stated		hands.
broke up the incident by "grab then immediately left the lock	_	, and
came out of the locker room to check of		V
was not asked to describe the entire in		
	tuck a pickle down throat duri	
locker room incident.	· —	
described the incident as f		
in the shower.	yelled at to stop an	•
	the ground and then got up and tey sticks fell over.	len the
holding down on the ground.		engaged or
	ne shower the entire time.	cligaged of
	n-person after the game.	stated
because could tell	was embarrassed that this	happened in
front of the whole team, and wanted	to know that	
The state of the s		sage, dated
stated	l in relevant part:	
I		
		, 1
l.		
described the incident as f	follows: in between the games at 1	Hebron
Academy, took a shower in the locker		
"disgusted by pickles." At some point pl		ound the
locker room and at in the shower.	threw pickles back.	
	started "going at it."	
was on the ground at some po		
down. He also	into the hock	tey sticks.
throwing another stick mund	separated them.	ng and then
running out of the locker room.	hing the door, crying and screami	



minute	es later, and	t en	out <b>Control</b>
	d him.  ing the altercation.  was sitting about 5 g and watched the whole		jumping on mouth. were
betwee shower throwin towel a fightin involve	acknown acknown acknown around his waist), and wa g. sat down	ker room and joined in. throwledged that at some point left. left. the left. the left. It is and watched the altercation between and watched the altercation between the left.	rs were in the nultiple players were we a pickle at it the shower (with a who were veen wing any and
of the said know withey di	19 students who were preengaging in the had nothing the where was ad not witness exited the shower	Three students were not present fesent, ten of those students describe the locker room incident, while nint to do with the incident or they did during the incident. Out of the student engaging in the incident, three and watched the fight, two students stated they did not recall or did cident.	ne students either not recall or did no dents who said that students indicated ats stated never
The ter	described an altercation in the lock "pinned" recalled that mouth. attempting to pull down	engaging in the incider  cer room at Hebron Academy.  on the ground by the single had a towel on and at some point also recalled pants.  from the ground, and that's when apart.  after the incident.	getting into stated houlders. Interpretation into put pickles in alled that at some "broke it
•	described play	vers throwing pickles in the locker in the shower.	room.







	joining in. stated did not see put anything in
	mouth, and did not see "pants" either.  described throwing hockey sticks, yelling and crying,
	and then leaving the locker room.
•	stated that players were eating sandwiches in the "warm room"
	between games at Hebron Academy. recalled going into the locker room
	afterwards and was taking a shower. described
	throwing a pickle into the shower, throwing the
	pickle back, and pickles then being thrown back and forth.
	described pushing each other, and
	pushing into the hockey sticks. stated that while this was
	happening, got out of the shower and waved a pickle in face. At some point was on the floor and was
	holding legs. described on the floor
	punching said did not observe get
	"pantsed." recalled stepping in to break it up, and then
	tripped on the sticks, causing the sticks to fall over, at which point
	punched the door and left the locker room yelling.
	observed outside of the locker room crying, and said said
	was ok. At some point came back into the locker room and got
	dressed for the next game.  throwing pickles at in the locker in the locker
•	described throwing pickles at throwing pickles at in the locker room shower. recalled others tossing the pickles around, including
	who threw a pickle back at the state of the
	some point, a pickle hit shirt.
	wrestling, and said it looked like they were "play fighting" at first
	but then it got more intense. stated stated "put [ put [ ]
	to the ground." came out of the shower fully undressed and
	started pushing and wrestling with
	was not behaving in a sexual way. did not see holding anything, and did not see put anything in
	mouth. recalled that during this incident was yelling "get
	off me" and "enough." recalled that at some point
	knocked over the sticks and ran out of the locker room.
	was concerned about and checked on after the incident in the
	locker room.
•	described trying to throw pickles in the locker room
	shower. said was in the shower, and knew that
	hates pickles. described grabbing a pickle, running over to and "rubbing it on [Student 20's] back."
	stated crouched down and "got into the fetal position"
	when started approaching tried to hit and kick
	stepped in to keep them separated.



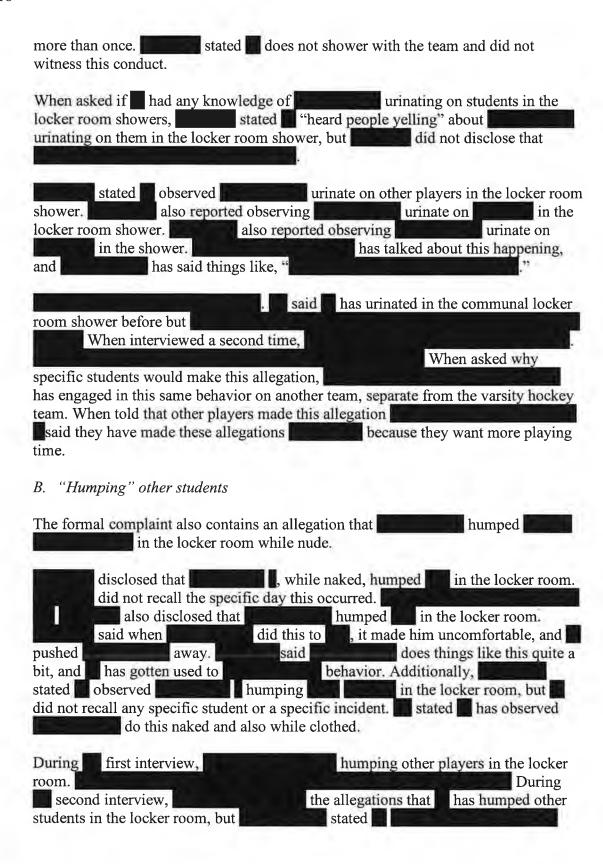
	"shouldn't have done that" but "poked the bear and got what deserved." described falling into the sticks, and then picking up one stick, banging it against the door, and yelling something like "don't fucking touch me."  • recalled players throwing pickles in the locker room.  recalled that was in the shower and threw pickles in the shower. recalled throwing pickles back.  stated tried to calm down the situation. recalled that at one point, was on the ground, and came out of the
	shower naked with a pickle in hand and approached stated was on the far wall trying to avoid what was going on and couldn't see well.  • It is not couldn't se
	"hunched over" and said it looked like hit or smacked in the face/head. said did not see anything go into mouth. recalled that was wearing a towel when joined the altercation. described breaking up the fight by pushing said got up, punched and slammed the door, and left the locker room.
	There is no dispute that the players were unsupervised in the locker room in between ames at Hebron Academy.
3.	alleged messages regarding the Hebron Academy
	The formal complaint contains an allegation that sent harassing nessages to regarding the incident at Hebron Academy.
	When interviewed, teased and sent harassing messages in the team snapchat such as understood this to be a reference to the incident that occurred in the locker from at Hebron Academy.  Sent a message in the snapchat group asking which players could participate in a JV game.  The property of the snapchat group asking which players could participate in a JV game.  The property of the snapchat group asking which players could participate in a JV game.  The property of the snapchat group asking which players could participate in a JV game.  The property of the snapchat group asking which players could participate in a JV game.  The property of the snapchat group asking which players could participate in a JV game.  The property of the snapchat group asking which players could participate in a JV game.
	oke and thought that if was wasn't allowed to play in the JV game,

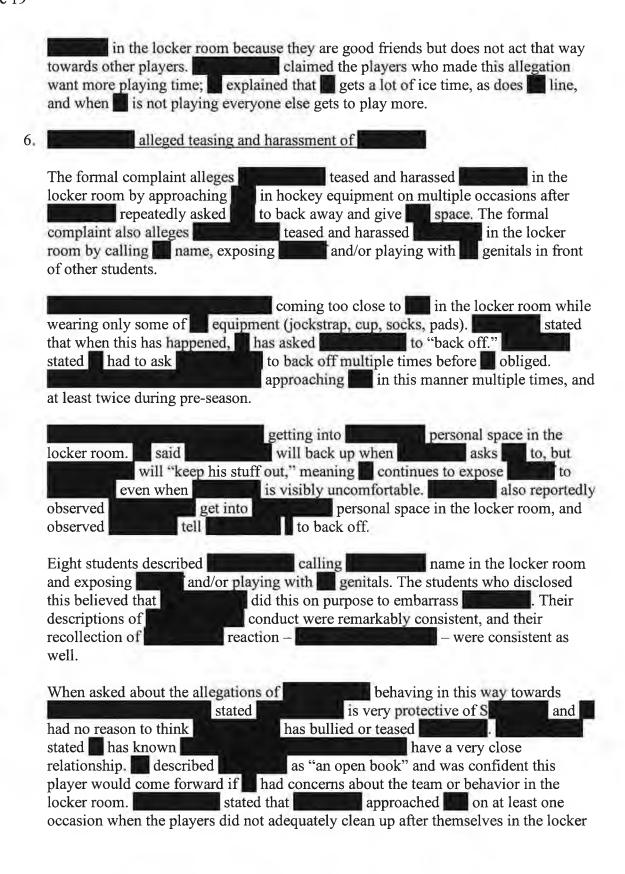


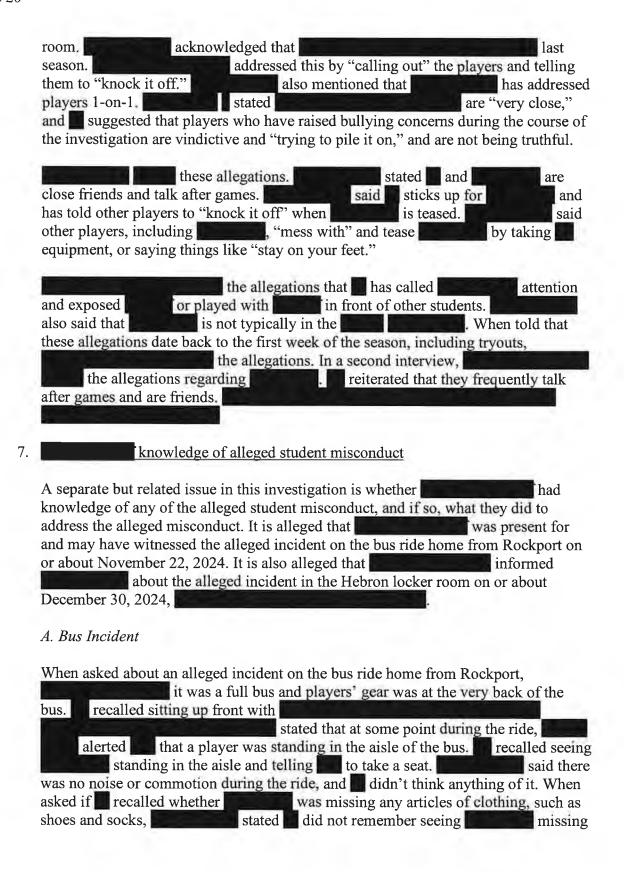
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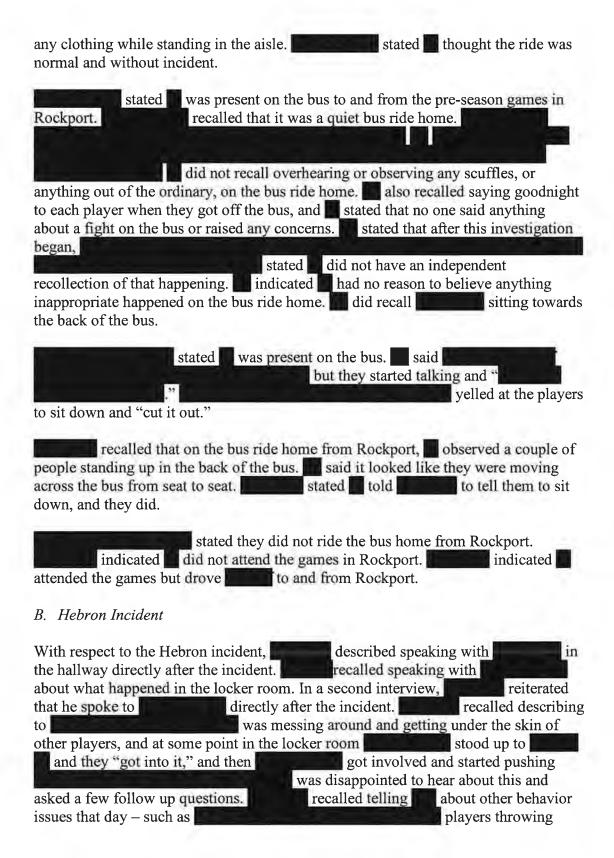
incident in the team snapchat, including saying something like "and saying
Enclosed in the Appendix at 0194 are pictures of messages from the Eagles Hockey 24-25 snapchat group. The messages include the following:
alleged inappropriate comments to
The formal complaint contains an allegation that allegedly made comments to such as "you're gay."
described making fun of him at practices and games by saying things to such as, "you're gay." stated does not say this to other players on the team. In a second interview, described frequently making fun of by calling "gay" and "faggot."
telling to "stop being gay." described saying this sort of thing when pushing away from for being inappropriate, and stated will say things like "you think I'm being serious" or "you think I'm gay" or "what are you gay?" said it's normal for players to say "gay" and it's not to be rude, it's used in a funny way. In a second interview, acknowledged generally using language such as "gay" and "faggot" in the locker room. stated it is common for players to use this language with each other, and stated does it as well.

Additional evidence gathered during this investigation relevant to this allegation is summarized as follows:
stated there are a handful of players who say things like "you're
gay" to each other.  says "you're gay" to somewhat
frequently.
• stated players on the team say things to each other like "you're gay" but not as an insult. did not remember a specific time when this happened.
and other players say things like "you're gay" in the locker room.
not serious.  • has heard say "you're gay" in the
locker room. stated other players use this same language in the locker room.
has not witnessed or overheard players using
language such as "you're gay." stated that even if you are just outside the locker room, you can hear the kids talking because they are not quiet.
that players use vulgar language and again reiterated that there
is "pretty consistent supervision" in the locker room,
do not supervise the locker room the entire time the players are in there, but are usually in ear shot and sometimes the door is propped open. stated has not overheard players use inappropriate language, such as "gay" or "faggot," with each other in the locker room or on the ice, although also indicated has heard that players do say things like "what are you gay?" to when acts immature or inappropriate.
5. alleged misconduct in the locker room
A. Urinating on students
The formal complaint contains an allegation that intentionally urinated on in the communal locker room showers.
When interviewed as a potential witness to other allegations, disclosed that intentionally urinated on shower. In a separate interview, disclosed this same information to several weeks prior to the beginning of this investigation.  was very upset by urinating on and brought it up



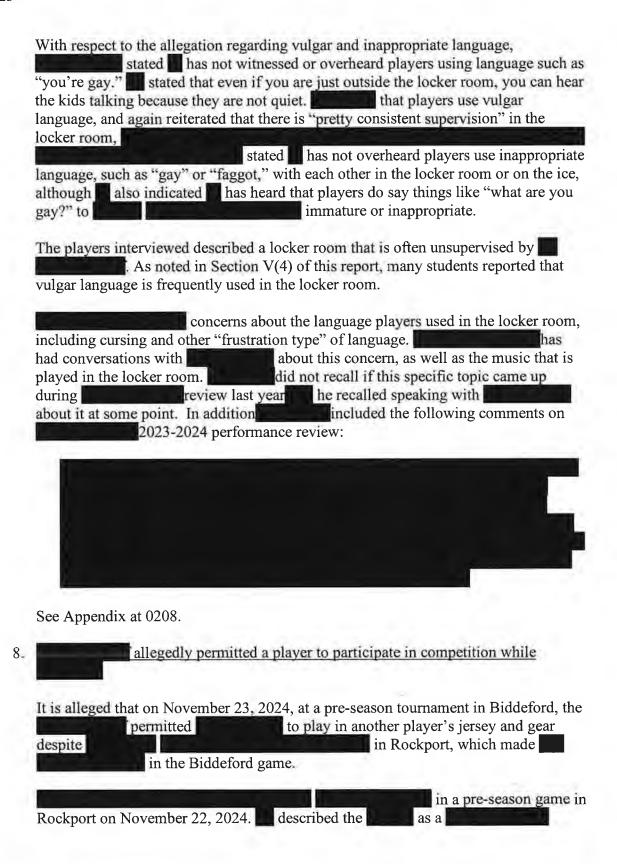


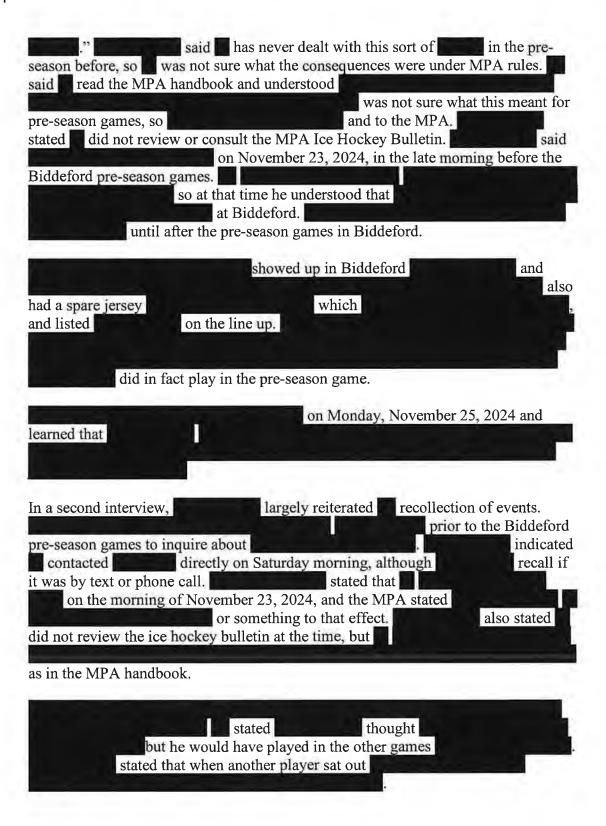


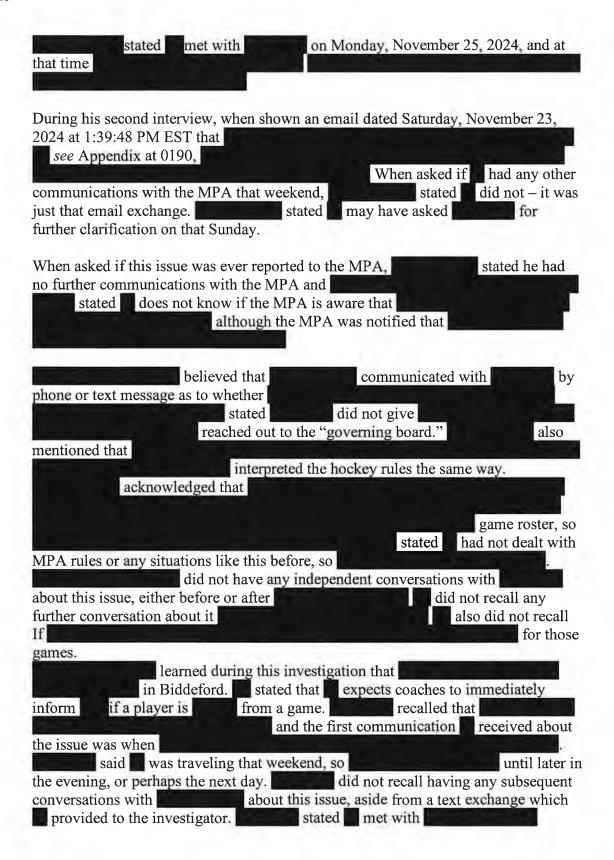


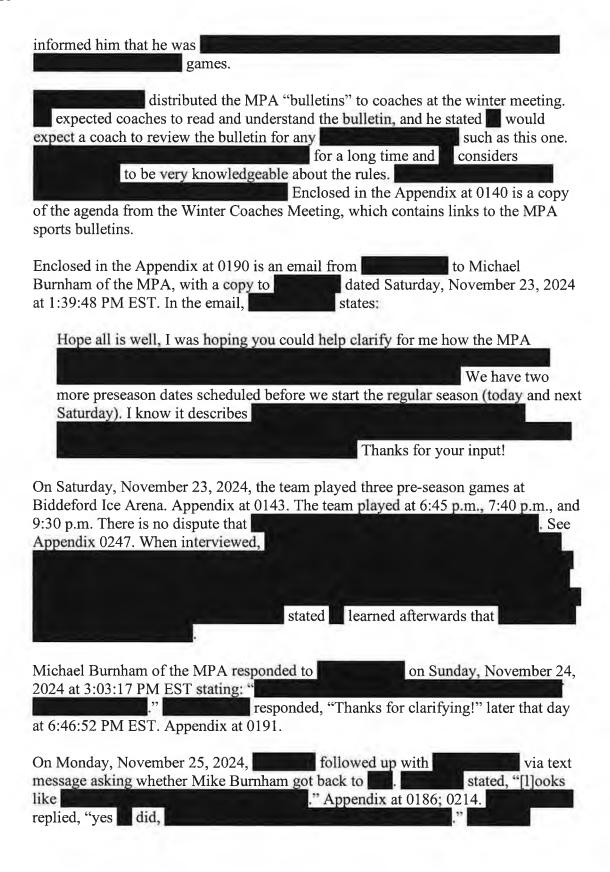


pickles in the locker room. said does not remember telling was naked during the locker room incident, but otherwise
recalled describing the incident to in some detail.
observed speaking to each other immediately after the locker room incident. described talking to in the hallway. recalled coming into the area and saying something like said this was before the
team's second game. recalled seeing walk away together to speak privately. stated did not speak with before the game and did not speak with 1-on-1 that day at all.
When asked to describe his recollection of the games at Hebron Academy, stated MTA hosted the games,
penalty box for a portion of the game. said the environment was loud and was actively involved
normal pre-game routine said there were no behavior issues with players on the team at Hebron that day.
When told that recalled speaking with about the incident .
C. of other allegations of student misconduct in the locker roo
It has not been alleged that witnessed or had knowledge of any of the other allegations. There is no evidence that these allegations were reported to either witnessed the alleged conduct.
having any knowledge of the other allegations of student misconduct in the locker room.









clarified, " ... Appendix at 0186; 0215.

a screenshot of the " " and asked, "how is getting a different than getting one from the fall or last winter?" Appendix at 0187.

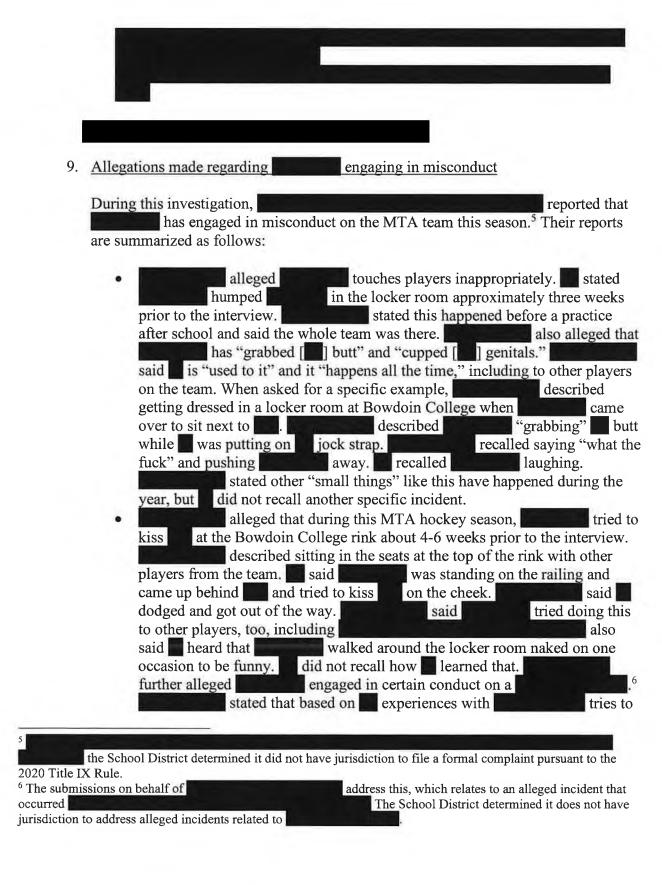
replied, "the rule is written that I understand your question ... I'll check with Mike tomorrow for clarification." There is also evidence that had a 30-minute phone call on the morning of Tuesday, November 26, 2024 beginning at 10:50 AM. Appendix at 0189.

The 2024-2025 MPA Handbook provides as follows:



The 2024-2025 MPA Ice Hockey Bulletin restates the MPA and further states:

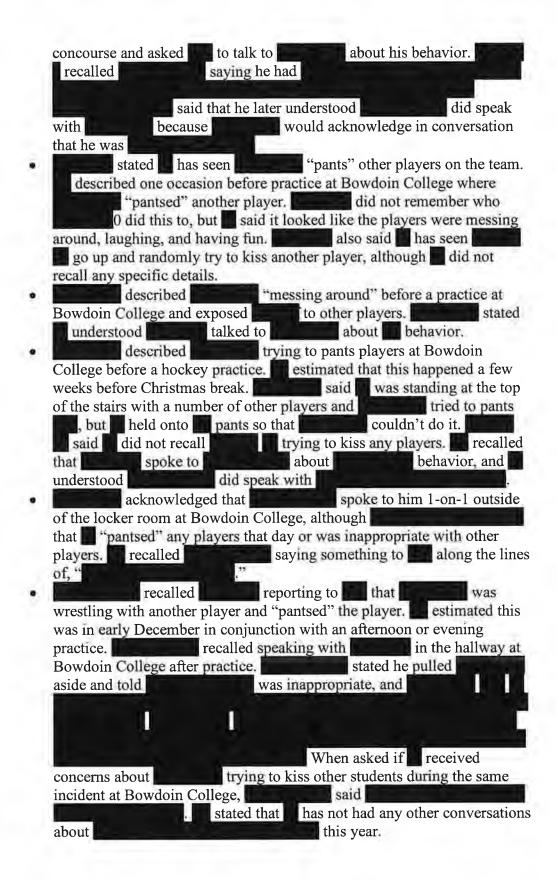






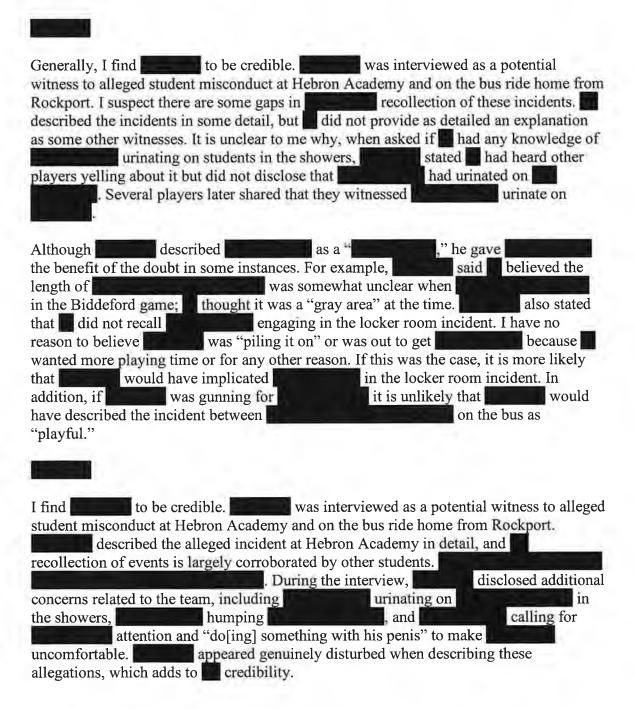
•	also alleged that during this MTA hockey season, attempted to put two fingers in his "behind." described coming up behind in the locker room and sticking two fingers in behind. was wearing sweatpants at the time. said told to stop. said has done this to once or twice, and that has observed do this to other players on the team. estimated observing Student 20 do this approximately 10 times this season, including to way.
	each of these allegations.
th be	ith respect to allegation that humped in stated has not directed any inappropriate havior towards always tries to be funny and it is not to run around the locker room naked.
	hen asked for an example, described messing around with other player and whipping the player with a towel. said told to knock it off.
ch	ith respect to allegation that 0 tried to kiss on the eek at Bowdoin College, the relevant information gathered during this vestigation is summarized as follows:
	recalled speaking with alleged incident involving described to address 0 about behavior.  behavior seemed to improve, until the day at Hebron Academy.  recalled standing on the concourse of Bowdoin College ice rink with a number of other players – he estimated about half the team was present.  described trying to "pants" players and trying to kiss players on the cheek.  stated uncomfortable, but would have been uncomfortable if did in fact kiss on the cheek.  stated to talk after practice.  stated he described to what happened on the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> control of the MTA hockey team. Appendix at 0223.



## VII. Discussion of Credibility

Over 30 individuals were interviewed as part of this investigation. I do not address the credibility of each and every individual interviewed but make the following observations.





also described telling about urinating on in the locker room shower several weeks before this investigation began. stated was very upset and brought it up more than once. This too bolsters credibility.
I find credibility to be mixed. described the incident in the Hebron locker room and on the bus ride home from Rockport in some detail, and there are witnesses who corroborate major elements of both incidents. Some details that have described are not corroborated, such as pantsing on the bus.
On the other hand, there are allegations that specifically at Bowdoin College, that motivated to address engaging in the alleged conduct, and gave him spoke to about and gave him "There are witnesses who corroborate the allegations of "pantsing" and trying to kiss students on the cheek before a practice at Bowdoin College. This leads me to believe that other
players on the team during the incident in question.
I find appeared to be uncomfortable when describing approaching in hockey equipment. also stated that share any information indicating that calls name in the locker room and exposes or plays with genitals. Eight other students have described doing this to tease and to intentionally make feel uncomfortable. I suspect
I have no reason to believe would be untruthful or fabricate any information.  so I have no reason to believe he would make a false accusation against to get more playing time.
I find credibility to be mixed. involvement in the Hebron incident despite 11 players stating ran out of the shower and joined in. stated sat next to while watched



, but described jumping on mouth. I did not find of involvement to be credible, nor did I find involvement to be credible with respect to this incident. I do not believe that the 11 students who described joining the altercation were motivated to make this up and there is no evidence of any conspiracy on their part to target in order to gain more playing time. It is my belief that they are telling the truth about conduct.
With respect to the bus incident, first both pushed explanation changed over time, and in a subsequent interview, made no mention of being involved. In both interviews, pushing and then grabbing and holding down by the shoulders, but indicated it all started because was trying to sit/lay on made additional allegations about such as grabbing butt and "cupping" genitals, which similarly, while telling to "stop being gay," and to generally using terms such as "gay" and "faggot" in the locker room, and other players use this same language. There is no evidence raised these concerns to or to the School District prior to this investigation.
the other allegations made against him, including that urinated or humped, and teased by approaching in hockey equipment and called name while exposing playing with genitals. There are credible witnesses to each of these allegations, which undercuts credibility.
I find credibility to be mixed. yelled at and grabbed in the locker room at Hebron Academy, but in the interview seemed to downplay the incident. For example, stated tripped and fell, and then left the locker room, whereas other witnesses describe "charging" "putting to the ground," and holding down.  In this Appendix at 0193. It seems unlikely that if the incident was as tame as if the incident was as tame as interview.
also claims remained in the shower and did not join the



ran out of the shower and joined the altercation. This is also contradicted by who claims came out of the shower and watched the incident while sitting down across the locker room, which further undercuts credibility do not believe that was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while credibility was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while credibility was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while credibility was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while credibility was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident while was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the incident was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the shower and watched the incident was truthful and could well have been covering up for the shower and watched the shower	y. I
I find credibility to be mixed. made allegations against during this investigation, specifically that tried to kiss on the cheek at Bowdoin College. tried doing this to other players too, including corroborated this allegation, which supports credibility.	nd
he sent messages  These messages appear in the Appendix at 0194-0203.  sending these messages, which bolsters his credibility. However, I do not find description of the locker room incident to be credible.  claimed was not involved in the incident, but 11 witnesses said is likely motivated to protect who is who is	
I find credibility to be mixed.	
stated did not learn about any incident in the Hebron locker room and did not know that something happened in the locker room until this investigation began. When told that about the incident right outside of the locker room, stated , but did not deny that it could have happened. said , and	
the game. However, credibly and very clearly described speaking with of the locker room, and observed them walk away together while in conversation. The evidence gathered from does not corroborate retelling of events. Given the nature of the incident it seems likely that would have at least recalled	
in the locker room. Seestimated that the MTA hockey locker room is one of the most	



supervised locker rooms in the sta in the locker room, which being little supervision by	described setting up a skate sharpening machine However, many players describe there in the locker room. Relatedly,
-	guage in the locker room. However stated
	version of events changed over time and is records. Initially, stated reached out to morning of Saturday, November 23, 2024. stated at same morning before the Biddeford games began.
	did not hear back from until after stated met with on Monday and interview, stated contacted the MPA ord pre-season games to inquire about directly on Saturday morning.
although could not recall if it w	vas by text or phone call. also stated that same day, in the late morning, and the MPA stated or something to that effect.
respond to Saturday afternoon MPA advised : "	rday, November 23, 2024 that sent to the MPA (MEST, the MPA did not email until Sunday afternoon at 3:03:17 PM EST. The olied, "Thanks for clarifying!" Appendix at 0190. There
is no evidence that	. In sum,
indicates until Monday, November 25, 2024 responded. See Appendix at 0186	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
It appears as though November 25, 2024, either. When he did,	responded to , he stated, "yes ." Appendix at 0186.



See Appendix at 0190.  ." Appendix at 0186.
With respect to the majority of the allegations, I have no reason to question credibility. The one allegation that raised some questions for me was whether observed or heard anything about the bus incident.  In Rockport.  In R
Aside from, four students present on the bus reported observing the altercation. Although the incident occurred at the back of the bus, there is evidence that students sitting in the middle of the bus had their attention drawn to the altercation. Therefore it is fair to question how was sitting in the middle of the bus without, did not witness or overhear anything unusual, especially considering it got the attention of the very front of the bus.
General observations
As noted, the 2024-2025 MTA varsity hockey team is a co-op made up of students from MSAD 75, Lisbon and Morse. There was some correlation between the information provided and the town where students come from.  engaged in the locker room incident. Several MSAD 75 players also  in the locker room incident, however, many of these players appear to have close relationships with  (in some cases,  ). By and large, this same group of players denied witnessing or having knowledge of the incident on the bus ride home from Rockport.
On the other hand, the students who described the locker room incident and the bus incident in detail were students. These students also shared information that was not necessarily flattering about perspectives more credible in my view. For example, many of these students described



other players.	
The group of students from who disclosed student who reported disturbed by  allegedly engagon students in the showers were students.	were by and large the same students allegedly singling out in the locker room. Each conduct directed at all seemed genuinely actions, particularly because it is well known that The players who reported aging in sexualized behavior in the locker room and urinating yere also students.
There are clearly two camps persuaded that any one stude get" any of the Respondents believe that	with very different perspectives. Ultimately, I am not ent, or a group of students or families, is vindictive or "out to, whether they are players or coaches. I am more inclined to ed to close ranks and protect and therefore were not always