

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
ST. JOSEPH DIVISION

EXHIBIT 6

PLAINTIFF A, by his natural mother and)	
general guardian, PARENT A, et al.,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. 5:21-cv-6153-SRB
)	
PARK HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT, et al.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

SECOND DECLARATION OF [REDACTED]

1. I am the mother of [REDACTED], Plaintiff B in this matter.
2. In my profession I help cyber-security clients, among others, communicate information from their data using visual storytelling. Attachment 1 to this Declaration is a Timeline that I prepared from social media posts and emails that I monitored and assembled. The comments in the left column are my observations. The documents reproduced are accurately copied from social media or appear in emails. My assessment of these materials mirrors my personal real-time observations. The September 16 “petition” and SnapChat Group posting had little circulation outside of the ninth grade football team on September 16 and 17.
3. As shown in the Timeline, after Principal Herren emailed the entire high school “family” late on September 17, calling the “petition” an unacceptable “racist statement” without saying anything about its context, the adults in the high school “family” assumed the worst: that it was an anti-Black racist statement made by white students. This information

void led over the next days and week to a furious response demanding that the School District deal harshly with the racist students. The School District knew of the context because it interviewed the four students involved on September 17, the day after they bus incident. Those interview statements are Defendants' Exhibits B-4, B-5, B-6, and B-7. Each describes the context as an intended joke created in the moment amidst racial bantering involving a racially-mixed group of team members. And all four acknowledged that what they had done was a big mistake and they apologized, all on September 17, before Principal Herren sent his incendiary email to the school "family" later that evening.

4. As the Timeline shows, adults in the community immediately after that email took advantage of the lack of any explanation by the District as to the facts of the incident to assume the worst, and blame the District, the four boys, and their parents for what they assumed must have happened. The District did nothing to correct the false impressions or address the incorrect assumptions that continued to circulate in the community and beyond. Indeed, on September 22 the Superintendent exacerbated the false assumptions by emailing the entire District's "family" again describing the matter as an unacceptable "racist statement". Outsiders continued to assume it was an anti-Black statement by white students, not racial bantering by a racially-mixed group of 14-year-olds.

5. This racial bantering arose from a climate or culture of racial denigrations. As shown in Attachment 2, an Asian on the ninth grade football team had been experiencing anti-Asian slurs, about Asians eating dogs, clearly inappropriate but seemingly done in a similar bantering manner toward a teammate who was well liked. He clearly did not appreciate this ethnic bantering as he made clear when he was interviewed on September 30. See Attachment 2, at page PH023.

6. Attachment 3 consists of the statements of many or most of the members of the ninth grade football team who overwhelmingly state that they were unaffected by what the four boys had done and many of them understood it to have been done as a joke, even though in retrospect that recognized that it was an inappropriate joke.

I HEREBY DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE
FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Date: 11/28/2021

Civic Cyber Misinformation

Vague messaging from Principal Herren & Superintendent Cowherd created rampant cyber community misinformation that spread to national media outlets.

Media outlets did not fact check the validity of the “petition”.

ATTACHMENT 1

The following timeline is how social media cyberbullying spread misinformation on Facebook and why the community is afraid to speak up. This timeline is Facebook misinformation only. The same misinformation spread on Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram.

The Park Hill School District’s administrators, media outlets, and adults without kids on the football bus over disciplined minors to appease society for political gain.

September 17

**First email from
Principal Herren:**

This email was sent within minutes after the screenshot boys were given their punishments of 10 days OSS and recommended long term suspension. This vague communication was sent out before a thorough investigation, viewing of bus video or interviews of all of the players occurred.

Open to interpretation, ambiguous messages left the district and boys alarmingly vulnerable.

Important Message from Park Hill South Inbox x



Kerrie Herren herrenk@parkhill.k12.mo.us via spe.schoolmessenger.com
to [REDACTED]

Fri, Sep 17, 5:54 PM



Dear Park Hill South families,

We found out today about some unacceptable and racist statements that some students posted online during a school-related activity.

We are outraged, hurt and saddened this occurred in our community. This is not who we want to be at Park Hill South. Our differences make us stronger, and we will not tolerate discrimination or harassment.

This further shows how important it is that we continue our work to make sure every member of our Park Hill South family feels safe and feels a sense of belonging in our school community. For more information about this work, see the [Inclusion and Equity page](#) on our school website.

Sincerely,
Kerrie Herren
Principal
Park Hill South High School

September 20

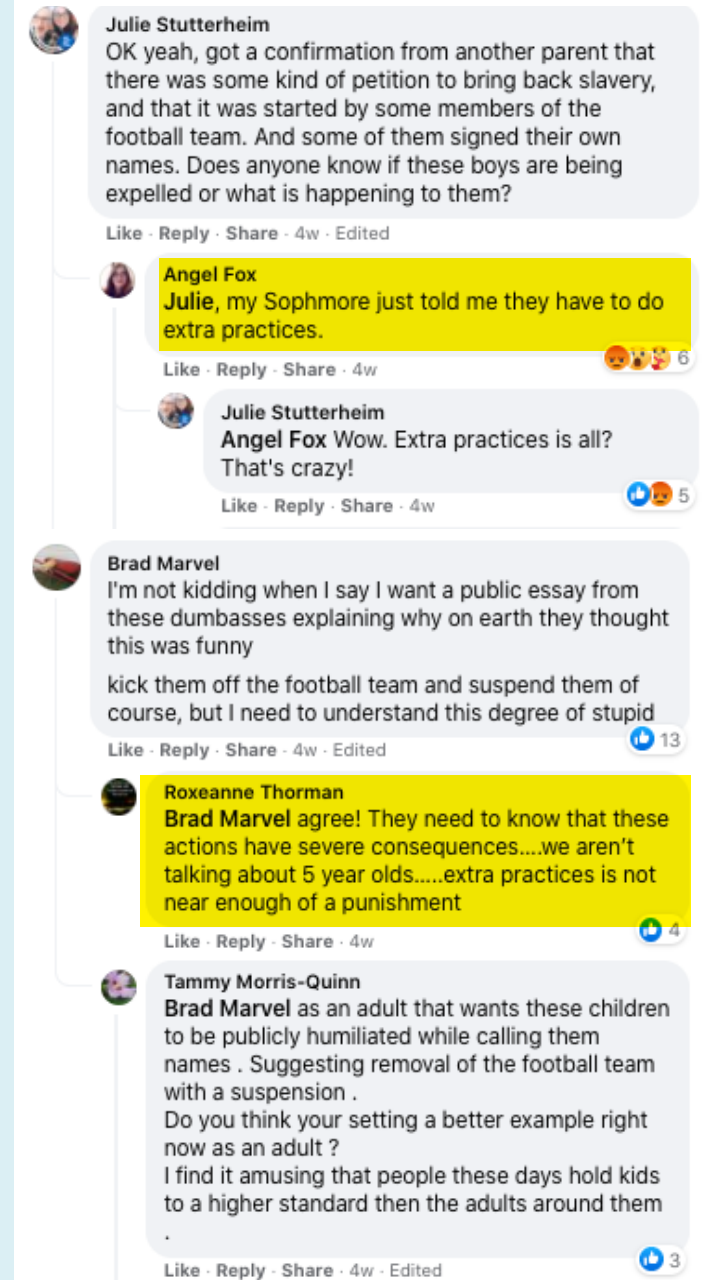
Julie Stutterheim ignited a social media attack against minors on the Citizens for Park Hill Schools Facebook group. This group has 2,600 members. Julie is not employed by the district and does not have children that go to PHS. This post led to thousands of comments across multiple platforms giving keyboard warrior adults ammo to go after children.



Responses to Julie's post

Adults begin to spread misinformation. Our boys were kicked out of school immediately before an investigation yet adults spread fake lies that the boys just had to run extra laps in football practice.

This is the beginning of the racist witch hunt and cyberbullying where adults demand to know the discipline and ask for SEVERE consequences, public apologies.



September 22

More vague messaging from Superintendent Cowherd. The administration still won't tell the true story. To even insinuate that the "petition" was a credible threat was dangerously misleading.

An Important Message for our Park Hill School District Community

Inbox x



Jeanette Cowherd cowherdj@parkhill.k12.mo.us via spe.schoolmessenger.com

Wed, Sep 22, 2:33 PM



to [REDACTED]

Dear Park Hill School District family,

Many people in our community are hurting right now as a result of an incident that happened at a Park Hill South High School event at the end of last week, when a small group of students posted unacceptable and racist statements online.

Park Hill South Principal Dr. Kerrie Herren did an excellent job reaching out to families after this happened, and LEAD Innovation Studio Principal Dr. Ryan Stanley followed up with the Park Hill South students and families at his school.

I want to reach out to our whole community to support the actions taken by these principals and to underscore how we will respond to these situations.

We do not tolerate discrimination or harassment in the Park Hill School District and have very specific policies to respond when these things happen:

- We have a Board of Education policy that specifically prohibits discrimination, harassment and retaliation. This policy says "students who violate this policy will be subject to discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion."
- We also have a Board policy on civility that prohibits "attacks regarding a person's race, gender, nationality, religion, disabling condition or any other personal characteristic."

I cannot share the specifics about any particular student's discipline, but I can tell you that we follow our Board policy when disciplining students.

It is important that we listen to the students, families and staff who are hurting, so we have been setting up meetings to give our people the opportunity to share how they feel. I appreciate the work of Director of Access, Inclusion and Family Engagement Dr. Terri Deayon to lead the restorative efforts we need to be doing to learn from this incident so that we can be better.

This is further evidence that we need to continue doing the work we started in 2015 to make our schools a welcoming, inclusive environment, where everyone feels safe. As our strategic plan (CSIP) says, one of our top goals is to "ensure success for all students, regardless of background."

Thank you for your support of our Park Hill schools as we work toward those goals.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Cowherd

Superintendent

Park Hill School District

September
21 – 23

Before the district did a thorough investigation about the Change.org posts, Julie Stutterheim went to the following news outlets to share misleading information about the “petition”:

- USA Today
- Daily Beast
- KC Star
- Fox 4 KC
- KMBC
- KCTV 5
- Local12


The community and country now wants serious ACTION taken against minors and their parents. Adults demand to know the discipline.

Citizens for Park Hill Schools

Julie Stutterheim shared a link.
September 23 at 3:01 PM · 🌐

As more info comes to light about this incident, here are some of the news outlets that have reported it so far:

- Fox 4 KC - Senior student shares her experience: <https://fox4kc.com/.../school-district-investigates.../>
- <https://local12.com/.../high-school-students-circulate...>
- KMBC- <https://www.kmbc.com/.../high-school-condemns.../37699523>
- KCTV5 - <https://l.facebook.com/l.php...>
- KC Star: <https://l.facebook.com/l.php...>
- KC Star - <https://l.facebook.com/l.php...>
- Daily Beast: <https://www.thedailybeast.com/high-school-students-in...>
- USA Today: <https://www.usatoday.com/.../missouri.../5822613001/>



FOX4KC.COM
School district investigates after Park Hill South students circulate racist petition

👍👍👍 11 9 Comments 2 Shares

Like · Comment · Share

The Kansas City Star · September 21 · 🌐

Students at Park Hill South High School circulated a petition to bring back slavery. Parents in the school district demand accountability.

Dave Pond
Thank you for speaking out. I find this all rather disgusting, only rivaled by the district's lukewarm, vague "responses."
Like · Reply · Share · 5w 4

Shannon Russell
Make sure you get the names for when they run for office in 10 years.
Like · Reply · Share · 9

Jan Pringle (Top Fan)
Disgusting, reptilian parents are to blame.
Like · Reply · Share · 7

Kwadwo Akosah
Don't blame the kids, blame the parents. That kind of talk is what they heard growing up. The Apple doesn't fall too far from the tree. Just as these bigots will tell us to go back to Africa, we say go back to Europe if you don't like it here.
Like · Reply · Share · 0

Ahmed 'King' Abdush-Shakir
Dan Carmack How about a *unch in the face, like we use to do it at Park Hill to racist kids
Like · Reply · Share · 1

L Wayne Matthews
Yeah...then watch one of em parents cry wolf when somebody black child have one of they kids in the hospital barley hanging onto life support 🙄
Like · Reply · Share · 0

Peter Riggs
Those kids parents are the real racist ones. They should be shamed. And called out. Any parents names?
Like · Reply · Share · 0

Asil Ezkerra
Does not surprise me one bit. My daughter went to one of their dances and she said it was a bunch of red necks.
Like · Reply · Share · 1

Ahmed 'King' Abdush-Shakir
I hate the fact that some racist think they can hijack Park Hill's reputation. And I pray the board send s clear message THIS CANNOT BE TOLERATED WHATSOEVER.
Like · Reply · Share · 3w 3

September
22 / 23

Any football parent that tried to defend the boys on any of these news outlets, is called a racist or white supremacist.

-Fox 4 KC
-KMBC
-KCTV 5
-KC Star
-Daily Beast
-USA Today

The mother of Plaintiff B begged Vice Principal Walker for help controlling misinformation. He told her that PHS doesn't talk to the media so telling the true story has to come from the football parents. She explained to him that anyone that defends the boys is berated, harassed and cyberbullied online.



Cassandra Miller
So again, MSM starts with the mass hysteria of "white racist" assumptions. This was nothing more than a bunch of KIDS, of multiple races, being insensitive and stupid. That's it. The authority/adults in the room turned it into hysteria. People will fall for anything. You are staring at what is wrong with society and you don't even see it. SMH. So dumb.

Stephen McCauley
Philip Roberts learned at home...way to jump to conclusions. Maybe...perhaps...given PHS is a high school, these kids are old enough to pay attention to the media, and the overblown cries of racism, and chose to do this for shock value, as ignorant kids tend to do things without fully understanding the repercussions.
Or is it because the kids are racist because of racist parents, and racist this, racist that? 🤔
I am convinced that people truly don't understand the meaning of racism anymore, nor are they capable of critical thinking, which I will agree is a failing of the public education system.

Erin Kelly Manley
Rhonda Bailey he is correct. The adults have turned this into something its not. These boys were friends- black, white Asian, they didn't care about ethnicity. It's a bad move, mixed with social media ignorance. Not racism. That's the adults agenda 🤔

KSHB 41's Post

Mollie Knipp Day
Erin Kelly Manley wow. What you are doing is a form of white supremacy. You and all the parents and friends of the two white kids involved are banding together to change the narrative to protect them. "Blame the black kids" is nothing new in American history. You need to take some time to really think about why you are so adamant to twist the narrative and take responsibility away from where it belongs.

2w Like Reply

Aimee L Sanita
Erin Kelly Manley signed it...how about started it? Jim keeps saying an African American started it. I don't know what giving in to political correctness means...it is completely inappropriate no matter what your political stance! Something isn't funny or a joke if people get hurt by it!

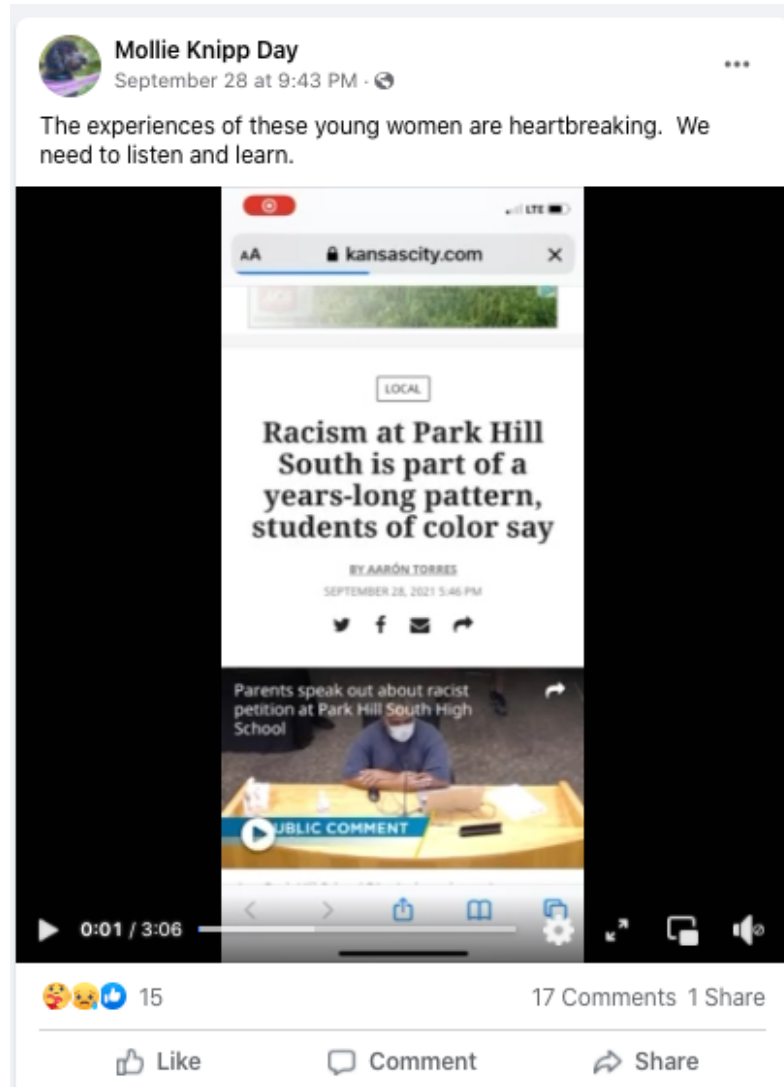
2w Like Reply

September 28

Mollie Day piggy backs on the “Petition” and shares the KC Star story where witnesses told their experiences with racism in the Park Hill School District. Molly is not employed by the district. None of these witnesses were on the Freshman Football bus. Adults use the “petition” to blame 4 minors for years of systemic racism in the district.

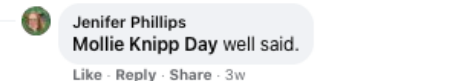
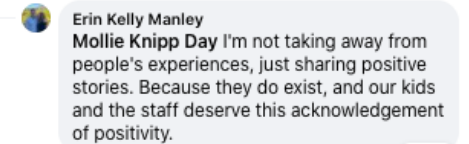
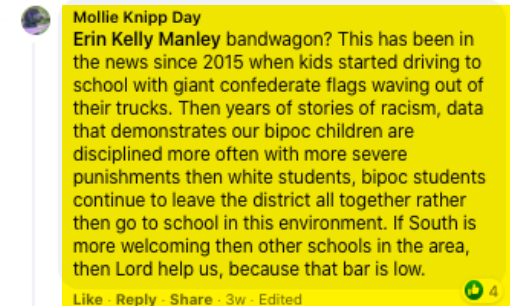
KC Star reports that Superintendent Cowherd vows to hire an expert to fight racism

When parents of boys actually on the football bus chime in, they get berated.



Every school district could use improvement on some things, but let's give Park Hill schools some credit instead of jumping on this recent bandwagon. Let's share positive stories such as: my son was sitting in a room with football players of all 4 high school grades and there were a few boys who stated that PHS is a much more welcoming and including school than others in the surrounding area. These positive conversations are being held between the students, thanks to the teachers/coaches.

Like · Reply · Share · 5



September 29

Julie Stutterheim was at it again and went to PBS to tell the “Petition” story. Reminder that Julie does not have kids at PHS and had no facts but kept going to the media to sell her story about racism in the Park Hill School District.

 Citizens for Park Hill Schools

 Julie Stutterheim shared a post.
September 29 at 2:30 PM · 🌐

I realize many want to move on from this, but it's not going away. Several parents' experiences are included in this PBS story (including mine). I think lots of people are watching how the district will handle this incident & what message will be sent to our kids. The next school board meeting is Oct 14, FYI.

 PBS NewsHour ✓
September 29 at 12:33 PM · 🌐

An online petition to reinstate slavery that made its rounds at a high school in Kansas City this month is the latest in a series of race-related incidents that... [See More](#)




PBS.ORG
A pro-slavery petition is the latest racist incident at this Kansas City high school.... [Learn More](#)


👍👎🗨️ 26 204 Comments 4 Shares


👍 Like 🗨️ Comment ➦ Share


👍👎🗨️ 26 204 Comments 4 Shares

👍 Like 🗨️ Comment ➦ Share

 Brian Holliman
You are right this isn't going away. I am still outraged by the mindset of some people and how they raise their children I think in this manner. I had to deal with racism growing up on a much deeper level, and in this day and time my children should not have to be subjected to this kind of hatred. The reality is this type of hatred has never gone away, it was only masked and disguised.
Like · Reply · Share · 3w 21

 Bryan Noland
Why aren't parents addressing this with their children!? Why are you waiting to see what the school board does?! This is a reflection of poor parenting. Schools are not the cure to all of societies ills. Parents take a stand and educate your children o... [See More](#)
Like · Reply · Share · 3w 21




 Julie Stutterheim
Bryan Noland I think people are talking about this with their kids. Since this happened at school, during a school event, there's also an opportunity for the district to step up and let the kids know this is unacceptable.
Like · Reply · Share · 3w 11




 Shannon D Josendale
Bryan Noland agreed! We spoke to our son quite a bit about this. I think it falls on all of us. Parents, school, and the community! We have to all speak the same message!
Like · Reply · Share · 3w 6





September 29


Parents who tried to defend the boys on Stutterheim's PBS post on Sept. 29 are then targeted to the school office as having racist children. Adults called the school office and made up racist stories about the kids whose parents defended our boys. This led the school to not let Bays' kids attend a football game the same day they were turned in. [See right hand column] Obviously, these stories were not true and the kids got to come back to school on Monday.


As a result, the community is afraid to defend the boys.


 **Susanne King**
They will tell you. "It's under investigation." Contact riverside police department. Contact the School resource officer. They HAVE ALL the facts.
Like · Reply · Share · 2w   2


 **Nacaela Johnson Bays**
Is anyone aware that the boy in the photo of the petition is also the one who was texting it around to recruit others to sign? An African American is asking for all to sign the petition for slavery. 🙄. It's not a funny "joke". Very insensitive. But why is it only four boys suspended when there are more involved and "joked" about it?
Like · Reply · Share · 2w · Edited   4




 **Nacaela Johnson Bays**
Not to mention that the boy snap chatting death threats and threats of sending the boys to the hospital has not been removed from school??? How is violence allowed but the rest is intolerable?
Care · Reply · Share · 2w    5

 **Darcy Brooke Lippman**
Nacaela Johnson Bays that is not ok...is that really not being addressed by the school? Wow.
Like · Reply · Share · 2w

 **Nacaela Johnson Bays**
Darcy Brooke Lippman they had the info two days ago and the boys were still there today.
Like · Reply · Share · 2w

 **Darcy Brooke Lippman**
Nacaela Johnson Bays totally don't agree with that. Cyberbullying should be taken very seriously. The school needs to send that message to ALL students...and parents need to start paying attention to what their kids are doing on the internet!
Like · Reply · Share · 2w

 **Karen Manherz Powell**
I heard (rumors travel, though) that the kids got expelled from school for the rest of the year and they are getting death threats. These are 14 year old kids!!!! This is absolutely ridiculous how it has gotten so blown out of control!!!
Like · Reply · Share · 3w · Edited

 **Anthony King**
Karen Manherz Powell blown out of control! Maybe those parents/family members should teach their kids to be better. There are consequences to your actions. It's clear these boys were not taught that.
How about you put yourself and your family in the place of what POC have to deal with while going to school. Would you volunteer your family to switch places if it was actually possible, I doubt it. If so, you clearly know there is a problem but chose to ignore it and make excuses since it doesn't concern you or your family.
Those boys are bullies and thugs in my eyes. That would be the narrative tagged on boys of color if the story was reversed.
Like · Reply · Share · 2w · Edited   10

PRIVATE MESSAGE

Nacaela Johnson Bays
Facebook
You're friends on Facebook

Oct 2, 2021, 11:10 AM

I have more to say but now my son has been targeted. The school banned him from the game last night and we have a meeting Monday morning. All because someone turned in a video of two kids which neither is my son but they said it was him. Falsely accused white kid white no proof or evidence was banned. But the African American or biracial kids making death threats are allowed in the school and to play the game.

Reply

The NAACP and the Park Hill School District released a joint statement Friday, a couple of weeks after a group of Park Hill South High School students created a “petition” to reinstate slavery.

People finally start questioning the validity of the “petition”.

If the “petition” is a valid siege on the district and nation. Where is the “petition”? No one can find the “petition” because Vice Principal Walker made Plaintiff A delete it before he took screenshots of all participants.



Anybody got a link to this petition? I'd love to read it myself and hopefully sense a sort of tongue-in-cheek vibe from it, especially since some commenters said it was created and signed by a mostly black student body.

↳ 11 Replies

Every student signature on that petition should be required to do 10 hours of community service a day for the next month with no pay and no meal. Triple the sentence for the petitions starters and then let them decide if they still want to go through w... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 2w

I have a feeling we only have half the story here. I can't find the petition anywhere. If this is making such a big ripple on the news then I would assume a lot of students signed it. If a lot of students signed it that means there is a systemic racism problem in that school (I graduated in 2008 and didn't see anything like that) or someone is trying to misrepresent what the petition said. Without the petition we can only assume. To assume that the school, students, and the entire school district are racists without providing evidence of that is not only unfair, it's dangerous. I look forward to seeing the petition if anyone has a link to it and I will absolutely reverse my stance on the issue if it states what they are claiming it says.

Like · Reply · 2w

October 9

Mollie Day and other community members start holding town halls welcoming all victims of racism in the Park Hill School District. Mollie Day and other adults use 4 minors as their political platform to share stories about the entire history of racism in our district.

Mollie Day is a parent of two members of the Unity Club at PHS.

Citizens for Park Hill Schools

Mollie Knipp Day
October 9 at 9:56 AM · 🌐

kansascitydefender



EMERGENCY TOWN HALL
A Public Event to Address Anti-Black Terrorism in Missouri-Kansas Schools
Date: Saturday, October 9th @ Noon
Location: Equal Minded Cafe
4327 Troost Ave

kansascitydefender
EMERGENCY TOWN HALL - LOCATION [...]

5

Like Comment Share

Write a public comment...

Citizens for Park Hill Schools

Mollie Knipp Day shared a link.
October 9 at 6:21 PM · 🌐



KANSASCITY.COM
'This is absolutely not OK': Racism in Kansas City area schools prompts town hall

11 1 Comment

Like Comment Share

Dusti Lyon Preul
Thanks for sharing this! 2

Like · Reply · Share · 1w

Write a public comment...

Citizens for Park Hill Schools

Gwen Marberry Van Asselt shared a link.
October 9 at 6:32 PM · 🌐

I'm guessing I wasn't the only person who left this morning's discussion with a mix of emotions. However, I appreciate the opportunity to discuss what I am learning with others—even when I make mistakes and say the wrong thing.

We will meet again on October 23rd at 9am and focus on chapters 3-5. We will meet at English Landing Park again.

More voices, experiences, and reactions to the book are welcome. Even if you didn't make it today, please come October 23rd.



BOOKSHOP.ORG
Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America a book by...
This New York Times best-selling book is a guide for families, educators, and communities to raise their children to be able and active anti-racist allies. With a foreword by Tim Wise, Raising White Kids is for families, churches,...

17 2 Comments

Like Comment Share


Dusti Lyon Preul
Loved the depth of the conversation and the willingness of everyone to learn more. Looking forward to the next meeting!

Like · Reply · Share · 1w

October 9

Mollie Day shares Julie Stutterheim's CNN story. Julie went to CNN to tell the story of the "Petition". Once again, these women with zero facts or children on the football bus continue spreading misinformation.

Mollie Knipp Day shared a link.
October 9 at 2:49 PM · 🌐




CNN.COM
A slavery petition was the latest racist incident at this school. Parents and lawmakers are fed up

👍👎👤 14 10 Comments 1 Share

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

View 1 more comment

 **Allora Laymon Nutter**
Please let me clarify for everyone. Was it stupid, insensitive and racist. Yes. Do I condone it obviously NOT! Are they really hoping to bring back slavery because they r racist teenagers? I certainly hope not. Did the kids realize the impact they would have on their community by their actions. I seriously doubt it..I am not saying it is right. I am saying that kids are stupid. And in this day and age kids can't be dumbass's because the repercussions are much worse then what they were 20 years ago.

👍 7

Like · Reply · Share · 3w

Stutterheim did what any concerned parent would do and reached out to the school to find out what happened.



Julie Stutterheim

What she found was that an increasingly familiar scenario was unfolding at her child's school. Across the US, there are two diametrically opposed conversations about race going on at the same time. In one, some White parents are telling school leaders that lessons about race make White students feel bad. And in the other, there's the racism that is actually happening in schools.

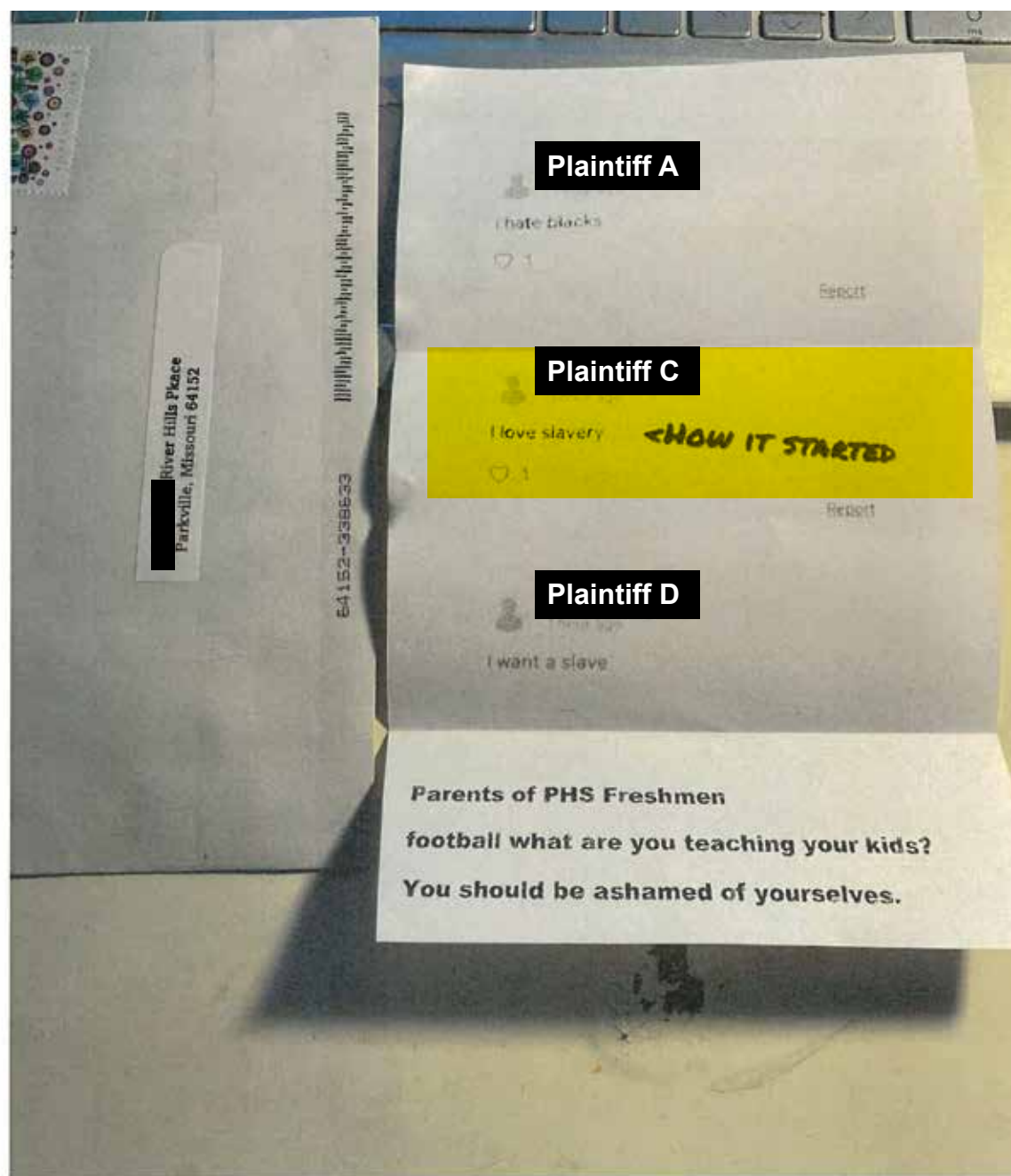
October 9

The same day the CNN story goes live, an all area flyer is distributed in mailboxes that changes the narrative of the true story and now blames Plaintiff B for starting the petition.

Whoever did this was trying to change the true narrative that boys of all ethnicities were involved. This flyer had the minors **real names**; Plaintiff B, Plaintiff C and Plaintiff D.

The flyer left off the names from the original screenshot of Plaintiff A and Plaintiff X. Then the comments online changed to the white kids started the “petition”.

An adult bought a Park Hill School District mailing list and mailed the names of minors and the district did nothing to stop it.



Julie Edlund

Allora Laymon Nutter

Two of the teenagers who started it are not black. This is a rumor to try and minimize what is happening in our community and in our schools.

October 10 / 11

After the district wide mailers went out, Plaintiff B's mother begged Superintendent Cowherd to help their family from being harassed.

Plaintiff B's mother talked to Dr. Cowherd for an hour on the phone and Cowherd seemed upset about the mailers. Plaintiff B's mother begged for her help to ask the community to stop harassing minors. Plaintiff B's mother asked if they could partner with the NAACP and do a joint statement about misinformation and harassment. Dr. Cowherd did not offer to set the record straight or offer to ask the community to stop the misleading information and harassment of minors. Dr. Cowherd said that she was ready for this to be over too and everyone needs to move on, yet she did absolutely nothing. The 4 boys are the administrators scapegoats to a botched, hastily handled investigation.

Harassment



Sun, Oct 10, 6:03 PM (11 days ago)



to Jeanette, colvinj

Dr. Cowherd and Dr. Colvin,

I'm sure you've heard by now that the scapegoated petition families continue to be harassed non-stop. The latest harassment was yesterday when someone anonymously mailed Plaintiff B, Plaintiff C, and Plaintiff D comments and names to every Parkville and Platte County Unincorporated address. Plaintiff A and Plaintiff X names were nowhere to be found on this photoshopped message. An arrow pointed at Plaintiff B name and comment with the text "HOW IT STARTED." Attached is the letter all citizens received. I filed a police report with the Platte County Sheriff's Office and asked for more protection around my home. The sheriff cannot believe how blown out of proportion this has become. We are all living in a state of shock.

Along with equity and inclusion, the mental health of students is one of the main tenants of the district's master plan and your lack of communication has sacrificed one for the other at the expense of 14-year-old boys. I do not think the harassment is going to stop until one of the kids commits suicide.

Plaintiff B was in the wrong (so was everyone else on that bus) but for our family and son's safety, it's time to shut this down by getting the right people involved. It's no longer about winning anything. Who is going to help us save our son's mental health?

We need help!! This is beyond anything we can control. This insanity has to stop. From Julie Stutterheim going to CNN yesterday for her 5 minutes of misinformation fame. I wonder what the Facebook whistleblower would think of this case. Mr. Walker told us that we would have to defend ourselves. We've tried, so have many others, and the harassment continues to the point where anyone who tries to defend the boys and tell the true story is called white supremacists by Julie Stutterheim and Mollie Day's posse. What monster would mail harassment letters with children's names to an entire community? Help us!!!!

Thanks!

Plaintiff B's Mother,



Cowherd, Jeanette via parkhill1.onmicrosoft.com
to Joshua

Sun, Oct 10, 7:04 PM (11 days ago)



Plaintiff B's Mother,

I am shocked and saddened by this action. I will give you a call tomorrow morning between 9 am - 10 am.
Jeanette

October 11

The community finally steps up and calls out the ridiculousness that adults mailed the names of minors and continue to harass our families.

When the community starts fighting misinformation about the boys, these outside adults continue blaming parents and changing the narrative that the "petition" did not involve kids of multiple ethnicities. They only blame the "white" kids and their parents.

More fuel to the fire on why the community is afraid to get the real facts out.

Citizens for Park Hill Schools

Karen Manherz Powell
October 11 at 5:23 PM · 🌐

I don't get angry often but I am aghast to hear that someone I know received an anonymous letter listing the names of 3 minors suspected in the recent Park Hill South petition. There's a reason news media, police, schools, etc do not release the names of minors. They are MINORS!! Whoever sent the letters out should be absolutely ashamed of themselves!!! Your letter backfired. My friend didn't send me a copy of the letter, just asked if I got one. She has sense enough not to send it out!!!

👍👎👉 28 112 Comments 1 Share

Like **Share**

Erin Cory-Racowski
Honestly, I'm not surprised. Some people here have no boundaries. They've made it known before.
Like · Share · 1w 4

Megan Carrier
My mother in law got one
Like · Share · 1w 1

Katie O'Hara Davis
What was the purpose of the letter?? Just to "out" people?

Lisa Holmes Serrone
People can't leave well enough alone when it comes to minors. Absolutely their names are withheld for a reason. What was the exact point in someone doing this except to keep the pot stirred within the district. I have stayed pretty silent on here lately as my son is on the freshman team. These boys already had enough on their plates with starting high school, trying to manage school, football and normal everyday teenager things-- now these boys have been subjected to scrutiny, controversy, and all finger pointing at them because they are freshman on the football team. My son said that he feels like a sitting target in his jersey at games because of this and let me tell you he doesn't have a mean bone in his body. He cares too much for everyone, always seeing the good in people. But this shameful display of some parents blasting these kids names is horrendous!
Like · Share · 1w · Edited 14

Julie Arena Swope
The district has addressed and has promised to continue to address the racism in our district in several ways. Although unacceptable, this is not a problem that is unique to our school. The news has reported several incidents in the last few weeks in area districts. To continue to contact media outlets, write letters, stir the pot, only creates even more division. When you choose to speak, you should probably be certain you know everything that happened and all that has been done and what is going to be done to address it. Just talking about an incident for weeks doesn't contribute to coming up with a solution. Also, make sure you don't misrepresent yourself as a parent of a student at the school this occurred at. Yes, racism and bullying need to be dealt with at all of our schools, not just South but those of us with children that would never behave this way are wanting to let the district do what they say they are going to do. They are not going to release what specific discipline decisions are made due to federal regulations no matter how much anyone carries on. Continuously pointing out the incident without also discussing the response and actions taken is irresponsible and doesn't do anything to address and solve the issues. Had the district not responded the way it has, I could see the need for the continuous media attention. It's been nearly a month. Become a part of the healing and solution. Stop talking when you don't have all of the pertinent information. Stop doing interviews talking about the incident. Let's talk about how to make things better for all kids in the district. Let's work to stop the racism and bullying. I sincerely hope your kids never do anything stupid or disappoint you in any way.
Love · Share · 2w 16

Erin Kelly Manley
To the troll who's sending the letter, as well as the parents who have pushed so hard to ruin these kids, and their families lives: I'll be the first to admit that I am so thankful that when I was young and dumb we didn't have cell phones and social media available at our fingertips. And I'm quite sure you parents who have not stopped until you've ruined lives, could say the exact same thing. Some of the adult responses and behaviors I see are absolutely no better than what these 14 year old boys did - they just don't have the power to ruin lives like adults do. Shameful. And honestly, every parent should be concerned about this mob mentality because at this rate, no child is safe.
Love · Share · 1w · Edited 21

Karen Manherz Powell
Erin Kelly Manley I agree for sure. These people act like they are perfect and have never known anyone to get arrested for something.
Like · Share · 1w 3

Jodie Chatfield Gerken
Erin Kelly Manley well said / it is so disgusting!!! Why don't the person that wrote the letter say who they are? Maybe it's because they know it is AWFUL and WRONG- some people just want to see others miserable because they are. The district has taken care of the matter. Move on. These kids have had enough. Bullying at its best
Like · Share · 1w · Edited 7

Traci Gray Ketter
Just dropping in to say I agree. *But* if you are more fired up about this than about the original incident, you might be part of the problem.
Like · Share · 2w 26

Melissa Hurley
Traci Gray Ketter I'm wondering if all our armchair quarterbacks being so incredibly fired up didn't have some influence on the administrations punishment for these kids. Call me part of the problem, but I don't believe the punishment fit the crime in the first place.
Like · Share · 2w 5

Julie Stutterheim
Nacaela Johnson Says the kids who created and signed the petition are white

Darcy Brooke Lippman
Lisa Eiken I think the parents are to blame ultimately...they set the tone for what is acceptable and unacceptable...they also decide whether they should be involved in their children's lives enough to be aware of how stupid they were being on social media...what is even more awful are the parent of one of the kids getting on here and making excuses for their kid and blaming everyone else...the parent (and all of the parent's friends) just proved my point that these kids weren't raised to be thoughtful, to have empathy, to take responsibility, etc. The actions of that parent really said alot for how I see all of the families involved unfortunately.
Like · Share · 1w 3

October 21

43 days after the “petition” bus incident, Dr. Cowherd continued to sensationalize the “petition” by doing an interview about the steps she had taken to combat the “petition”.

Principal Herren, Superintendent Cowherd and other adults in the community used four boys from a screenshot in a political game and did not punish all kids involved. They scapegoated four children and used them as pawns for political gain.

No matter how distasteful and ignorant, the petition was meant for boys of all ethnicities on the bus, razzing each other about getting jobs. The petition link was never publicly shared and signed by anyone other than the players on the bus. In fact, no one can find the petition since Vice Principal Walker made Plaintiff A delete it before an investigation occurred. These are CHILDREN and this event happened in their FIRST month of high school. Yet, the administration holds 14-year-olds without fully developed reasoning brains in the cesspool of peer pressure, a freshman football bus, to higher standards than adults.



September 30

(statement taken 14
days after incident)

The player not on the bus
that took the screenshot of
the "petition" comments and
shared them to Snapchat.

ATTACHMENT 2

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/30/21 Time: 12:20

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

Wasn't on the bus at any time

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Pretty sure it was **Student A** who created and sent petition
Student D, **Student C**, **Student B**, **Student A** participated

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

I'm doing good
No, I'm good.
"I'm doing good.
No, I'm good."

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

I was looking at my text messages and I saw the
screen recording of [REDACTED] and then I screen
shot it and then I shared it to SnapChat. Reason
I did this is because they have said some racist things
before, besides **Student B** about my ethnicity (Asian). It wasn't
just them it was others who said something before

Other Questions:

"I was looking at my text messages and I saw the screen recording of Student X and then I screenshotted it and then I shared it to SnapChat. Reason I did this is because they have said some racist things before, besides Student B?, about my ethnicity (Asian). **IT WASN'T JUST THEM IT WAS OTHERS WHO SAID SOMETHING BEFORE.**"

Freshman Football Players' Statements

Statements were taken 13-14 days after incident.

Even though the football players had been scared by 13+ days of rampant civic cyber misinformation, the following statements indicate the players were not emotionally bothered and/or viewed the “petition” as a joke.

Many players’ statements also show that not all players involved were disciplined. Only players whose comments were screenshotted by a player not on the bus, then shared, were disciplined. The shared screenshot was a mere snippet in time.

To this day, the administration has no idea how many players “liked” or “signed up” for the “petition” because the “petition” has not been seen since Vice Principal Walker made Student A delete it on the evening of September 16 before a thorough investigation of the “petition” or interviewing all football players.

September 30

(statement taken 14
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED]

Date: 9/30/21

Time: 1:34 PM

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

on Elmore's bus → talking to friends on the bus; same atmosphere
on bus coming home - also celebratory

went to Culvers w/ [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] - when we
found out - they were talking
about the petition - saw it
on Twitter

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Student A

created

heard different stories about who sent it

Student B

Student C

Student A

Student D

participated

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

thought this isn't good

mad it got to the news and got twisted
"mad it got to the news and got twisted"

I'm doing fine

"I'm doing fine"

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

no

declined to write

Other Questions:

left vm for mom 1:40 PM

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 2:24 PM

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst? on A-K bus

To- I was ~~asleep~~ asleep - my knowledge isn't personal experience
Coming home - people talking about it ~~to~~ ([REDACTED] came up to me and said we
weren't deep water b/c it
was posted)

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

saw a screenshot of it on Twitter
↳ sent in FB group chat - Snapchat
↳ unknown who sent

→ in parking lot

Student A

creator -

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you? participants - those 4

I'm okay - close w/ 3 of them - sucks they

___ could be expelled for one mistake

"I'm okay-close with 3 of them-sucks they could be expelled for one mistake"

I'm okay - don't need anything "I'm okay-don't need anything"

Students B, C, D

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

You guys got it

declined to write

Other Questions:

2:31 PM

not concerned about own child -

Mom concerned the four boys will not have the resources

"mom concerned the four boys will not have the resources they need (mental health) - lots of horrendous social media posts - them as minors need to be protected - Park Hill Citizens page isn't following their own rules."

they need (mental health) - lots of horrendous social media posts - them as minors need to be protected - Park Hill Citizens page isn't following their own rules

has own family history w/ suicide - worried about a tragedy

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 12:20 PM

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

on the bus w/ Student D → no one knew on way to Rockhurst - lots of texts on my phone coming home about how they messed up

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

someone saw it and posted on their story about how this was wrong ([REDACTED])
thinks Student A created it people talked about it coming home and
not sure how shared speculated they would be in

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you? trouble

doing okay
"doing okay"

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

they're good people who did something stupid
"they're good people who did something stupid"

declined to write

Other Questions:

spoke to mom on 9/29 @ 12:24 PM

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 12:52 PM

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

on first bus w/ coach ~~Henry~~ - on my phone the whole time
Elmore

coming home, phone dead - listening to [REDACTED] & [REDACTED]
my friend [REDACTED] was mad b/c he thought we'd all be in trouble
Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)? I heard from [REDACTED] on Monday in
heard it was Student A who created Leibbrand's class

Student D & [REDACTED] commented on it

Student B part of my group in computer science Essentials

[REDACTED] took
screenshot
& posted on
public story
(pretty sure it's on
Instagram)

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

not too horrible - no one harassed me about it
"not too horrible - no one harassed me about it"
I'm good
"I'm good"

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

don't think so

declined to write

Other Questions:

some of the freshman boys were saying things to cheerleaders
on bus ride home from parade (heard from mom not
himself)

spoke w/ Dad 9/29/21
@ 1:00 PM

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 2:36 PM

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

~~on bus w/ last names~~ w/ Elmore's - sitting on back of bus
I was helping - couldn't play
b/c I was late
knew nothing at the time

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

people told me it was Student D, "Skittles", ?

there was no petition - I don't remember
"there was no petition"

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

nervous this could lead to
a mental health

not affected

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

bad reputation for our community
people sending death threats online - news stories etc. online

lots of jokes in
the groupchat -
someone took
picture of that and
it was taken out of
context "Lots of jokes in the
groupchat someone took
picture of that and it was
taken out of context?"

declined to unite

Other Questions:

left VM w/ mom 2:46 PM

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 1:26 PM

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

always have my earbuds in - getting in game mode -

sitting next to [REDACTED] coming home - heard about it @ midnight

iphone
msgs
linemen have a group chat - were all talking about it - was told to stay out of it

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)? called [REDACTED] to find out what runner has it [REDACTED] created was going on

four people - [REDACTED] Student C [REDACTED] Student D [REDACTED] someone else signed it

Also heard [REDACTED] Student X could be involved

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

doing okay - doesn't need anything
"doing okay - doesn't need anything"

although he's captain, people know he had nothing to do with it

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

no

sent in snapchat group chat
link sent in there

"Also heard Student X could be involved sent
in snapchat group chat link sent in there."

declined to write

Other Questions:

spoke w/ mom @ 1:32 PM

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 1:25

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

Didn't hear about anything on way there
On way back went to group chat and saw link { PHS Freshman Football }
and people was talkin' about. { Group Snapchat 35 }

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Student A - created it. Student D Student C Student B

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

He's doing okay. No, he's good.
"He's doing okay. No, he's good."

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

No, not really.

Other Questions:

- * Didn't want to write statement.
- * A couple of those guys like to make jokes it finally caught up to them. But they weren't serious about this I believe.
"But they wasn't serious about this, I believe."

September 30

(statement taken 14
days after incident)

The player not on the bus
that took the screenshot of
the "petition" comments and
shared them to Snapchat.

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/30/21 Time: 12:20

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

Wasn't on the bus at any time

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Pretty sure it was Student A who created and sent petition
Student D, Student C, Student B, Student A participated

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

I'm doing good
No, I'm good.
"I'm doing good.
No, I'm good."

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

I was looking at my text messages and I saw the
screen recording of [REDACTED] and then I screen
shot it and then I shared it to SnapChat. Reason
I did this is because they have said some racist things
before, besides Student B about my ethnicity (Asian). It wasn't
just them it was others who said something before

Other Questions:

"I was looking at my text messages and I saw the screen recording of Student X and then I screenshotted it and then I shared it to SnapChat. Reason I did this is because they have said some racist things before, besides Student B?, about my ethnicity (Asian). IT WASN'T JUST THEM IT WAS OTHERS WHO SAID SOMETHING BEFORE."

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/21/21 Time: 12:30

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

Started off joke, began talking to [REDACTED] Student X said he needed a job and Student A said "you should be a slave."

"Started off as a joke, Student A talking to Student X, Student X said he needed a job and Student A said "You should be a slave."

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Student A created the petition, 4 kids Student D, Student C, Student B

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

I'm doing alright I guess. I've known 2 kids from kindergarten and I know they're not like that. I'm shocked

"I'm doing alright I guess. I've known 2 kids from kindergarten and I know they're not like that. I'm shocked."

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

I feel like everyone on the bus was laughing + joking about, even Student X and other black students.

"I feel like everyone on the bus was laughing and joking about it even Student X and other black students."

Other Questions:

* No

* Mom ask do not interview w/o Parents present. Doesn't want [REDACTED] involved.

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/30/21 Time: 1:15

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

On bus ride there I was asleep

On the way back I think people was showing the petition around
but I don't know I really wasn't paying attention. I was listening to music.

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Student A created the petition

Student B

Student C

Student D

Student A

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

Doing Good. No don't need anything or support.

"Doing good. No, don't need anything or support."

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

I heard there was a video
about the Petition ???

Other Questions:

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 2:35

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

On way you heard [REDACTED] made a Petition, someone showed
you this on their phone. I didn't get it on my phone.

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Student A created and I think or assume he sent but I'm
not sure. Student B Student C Student D [REDACTED]. I saw screen shots

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

I'm a little mad, I don't think it was meant to get out like it has.
They shouldn't have done it. And I think they're getting a bigger punishment
because it's out in media, more than they deserve.
No, I'm doing okay.

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

"...And I... think they're getting a bigger
punishment because it is out in the media more
than they deserve. No, I'm doing okay."

Other Questions:

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 1:59

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

Petition was made on way, but I didn't know about it
on way back I learned about petition

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Student A - created & sent it to group chat (Private group Snapchat)
PHS Freshman Football
Student C Student D Student B

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

I'm doing fine. No, I'm doing fine.
"I'm doing fine. No, I'm doing fine."

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

No, not that I know of.

Other Questions:

I been friends w/ Student B. I just think he did
something stupid.
"I've been friends with Student B. I just think he did something stupid."

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/29/21 Time: 2:20

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

I was in back water to music. A kid named Dustin pull up the Petition from group chat & showed it to everyone. I didn't click onto it.

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Student A created & sent it. I can see in group chat that he sent it. Student B, Student C & Student D. I know this because people sent screen recordings.

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

I'm doing good, except a few of those kids are my good friends. No, I don't think there's anything you can do to support me.

"I'm doing good, except a few of those kids are my good friends. No, I don't think there's anything you can do to support me."

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

I didn't want to be a part of it. I should have sent a text to shut it down.

Other Questions:

No

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Park Hill South High School

Student Statement

Name: [REDACTED]

Date: 9/29/21

Names of other students involved:

Student A

Student B

Student D

Student C

Description of the Incident:

We were on the bus riding to the game. Student A made the petition as a joke. Student B, Student C and Student D commented on the post. Personally, I was preparing myself for the game. So I wasn't really paying attention to what was happening. The bus arrives at Rockhurst and we get out and went to the ~~game~~ field. [REDACTED], who wasn't on the bus. Screenshotted the petition and posted it on his story. By the time the game ended, [REDACTED] post had gained lots of attention. And all four of the boys instantly regretted what they did. As the days went on, ~~the~~ our school started getting a lot of bad attention. As of today, our football is healing and we're using this situation to help bring us even closer as teammates. I know Student A, Student B, Student D and Student C. I don't believe that they are racists. They made a huge mistake. And unfortunately, they're going to have to pay the price. I would like to finish by saying the football coaches ~~are not racists~~ and players are not racists. My teammates are like brothers, I know that they are not racist/discriminative. ~~I am still happy to be apart of this football program.~~ I am still happy to be apart of this football program.

A signature below indicates that the above description is full, complete and true record of the incident that took place. Failure to provide full details or using false information will signal an intent to deceive School District personnel.

Signature of Student: [REDACTED]

PH065

September 29

(statement taken 13
days after incident)

Park Hill South High School

Student Statement

Name: _____

Date: 9/29/21

Names of other students involved: Student A Student C Student D Student B Student X

Description of the Incident:

Student A and Student X were talking on the bus and _____ said, "I really need a job," so Student A commented back, "What about a slave?" And they both started laughing about it and then Student A decided to create a petition called "bring back slavery." And 4 kids, Student C, Student D, Student A, and Student B all commented something on the petition. But at the time everybody was laughing and joking about it. But _____ sent me the petition to try to get me to sign it and I said "no."

A signature below indicates that the above description is full, complete and true record of the incident that took place. Failure to provide full details or using false information will signal an intent to deceive School District personnel.

Signature of Student: _____

PH024

September 16 (day of incident)

Player PH024 from the previous page also shared the screenshot to the right. Student X invited PH024 to sign the "petition" and his face is on the "petition". You cannot share a Change.org petition without first signing the petition.

**Happy Face Sticker protects the identity of person in photo.*



September 30

(statement taken 14
days after incident)

Park Hill South High School

Student Statement

Name: [REDACTED]

Date: 9/30/21

Names of other students involved:

Student A

Description of the Incident:

Student A

and [REDACTED] thought it would be funny to make a petition to 'start slavery again' it was revolved around [REDACTED] because [REDACTED] makes racist comments about his own race too

Student X

Student X

and then [REDACTED] posted it to his Snapchat story and then it spread like wildfire because about an hour after the post on Snapchat there were public stories saying that Black Lives Matter with a picture of the petition

"Student A and [REDACTED] thought it would be funny to make a petition to 'start slavery again' it was revolved around Student X because Student X makes racist comments about his own race too....."

A signature below indicates that the above description is full, complete and true record of the incident that took place. Failure to provide full details or using false information will signal an intent to deceive School District personnel.

Signature of Student: [REDACTED]

PH043

September 30

(statement taken 14
days after incident)

Name: [REDACTED] Date: 9/30/21 Time: 1:00pm

What happened on the bus ride to and from Rockhurst?

To: Got on bus, car-buds, [REDACTED] added a story about a petition
to bring back slawry

From: **Student A** who made it

Who did this (created, sent, participated in the petition)?

Created: **Student A**

Sent: [REDACTED] posted it
Student D commented on it.

How are you doing? Is there anything we can do to support you?

- Intersubbing Situation

- No

Is there anything else we need to know about this incident?

- It was about a kid named **Student X**
- **Student X** makes the same jokes about himself.
Made a comment about going to pick Cotton

"It was about a kid named Student X. Student X makes the same jokes
about himself. Made a comment about going to pick Cotton."

Other Questions:

(Student was concerned his name would
be linked to what he said)