

July 30, 2013

Hon. Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor
New York City Public Schools
Department of Education
52 Chambers Street, Room 314
New York, NY 10007

Re: Malik Taylor
SCI Case #2013-2848

Dear Chancellor Walcott:

An investigation conducted by this office has substantiated that 31-year-old Malik Taylor, while assigned as a community associate and dean at the Business of Sports School (“BSS”) in Manhattan, had inappropriate sexual relationships with four female students who attended the school: a 16-year-old student (“Student G”), two 17-year-old students (“Student H” and “Student D”), and a 19-year-old student (“Student A”).¹ The investigation also substantiated that Taylor sexually harassed four other female students at the school: a 16-year-old student (“Student F”), two 17-year-old students (“Student C and Student E”) and an 18-year-old student (“Student B”). Taylor also solicited Student C to buy marijuana for him.

This investigation began on May 22, 2013, when BSS Assistant Principal Rosa Choi contacted the Office of the Special Commissioner of Investigation (“SCI”) and reported that Community Associate Malik Taylor was involved in a sexual relationship with Student A, and that the student alleged that Taylor, who also served as a dean at BSS, may have been involved in inappropriate relationships with Student B, Student C and Student D.

SCI investigators interviewed Choi who reported that Taylor had been employed at BSS since May 2012. Choi stated that on May 22, 2013, Teacher/Senior Advisor Tarawhona Bellevue informed her that Student A told Bellevue that Student A had been involved in a sexual relationship with Taylor. Choi stated that Student A also said that Student B told Student A that Student C was also dating Taylor.

¹ Malik Taylor resigned from his position as a Community Associate on May 28, 2013. He is not eligible for employment.

Choi related that Student A told Bellevue that sometime around March 2013, Student A had a conversation with Student D who told Student A that she was involved with Taylor and that Taylor had done something to Student D causing her to be angry and resentful of Taylor. Choi informed investigators that Student D left the school on April 5, 2013, ran away from home, and moved to an undisclosed location.

Choi stated that based on information provided by Student A, she directed Bellevue to speak with Student B. Choi stated that on May 24, 2013, Bellevue informed her that Student B reported to Bellevue that Taylor told her to walk away from him because he wanted to see her “ass shake” and that he asked Student B to be his wife. Student B also told Bellevue that she knew that Student A and Student C were involved in relationships with Taylor.

Bellevue informed Choi that Student A approached Bellevue earlier that day and informed the teacher that Taylor had called her and apologized for everything and Student A told Taylor that she reported him. Choi stated that on May 28, 2013, Taylor sent Principal Solomon an e-mail message resigning from his position at BSS.

SCI investigators interviewed Student B who stated that sometime around the end of April 2013, Taylor told her to walk down some stairs at the school so he could see her “ass shake.” Student B then told investigators that earlier that month, while she was on her way to the bathroom, Taylor held a door for her at the stairwell and told her “there’s not enough room for me and your big ass.”

Student B informed investigators that in April 2013, Student C told her that Taylor asked Student C to meet him at a McDonald’s restaurant located near the school. Student B stated that Student C showed her a piece of white paper from a notebook with Taylor’s telephone number written on it. Student B stated that Student E told her that Taylor made comments about Student E’s buttocks. Student E told Student B that Taylor told Student E that she “has a big ass for a [nationality].” Student B said that Student E also told her that Taylor told Student E that he wanted to date Student E.

SCI investigators interviewed Student E who stated that one day, in what she believed was February 2013, she was on the escalator at the school when Taylor asked “You know how I recognize you?” When Student E asked how, Taylor told her to turn around and he then pointed to her buttocks. Student E stated that she was alone with Taylor when he made that comment and she became “scared” of Taylor based on the comment. Student E told investigators that sometime around the beginning of May 2013, Taylor told her that if he were younger then he would date her. Student E said that she did not respond to this comment, but added that it made her feel “disgusted and not safe.” Student E stated that she did not want to be around Taylor. Student E said that right after Taylor made this comment to her she told Student F and Student C.

SCI investigators interviewed Student F and asked whether Taylor ever said or did anything that she considered inappropriate. Student F replied that Taylor once told her that her teeth were ugly and also asked: "Why do you have such big breasts?" Student F then acknowledged that Taylor made comments about her breasts several times. Student F stated that she heard Taylor make comments to Student E in the school's hallway about Student E's buttocks and recalled that on several occasions Taylor asked Student E: "Why is your butt so big?"

SCI investigators interviewed Student A who stated that soon after she first met Taylor in May 2012, he started making jokes about her. Student A stated that these comments hurt her feelings. Student A stated that not long after the new school year started in September 2012, Taylor started making lewd comments to her about her buttocks. Student A stated that Taylor regularly commented that her "ass is ridiculous." Student A stated that in December 2012, while in the school cafeteria, Taylor told Student A about his daughter and led her to believe that he was not married. Student A stated that while she was walking in the cafeteria with Taylor behind her, Taylor grabbed her buttocks. When she questioned his conduct, Taylor replied: "I just had to."

Student A stated that Taylor learned her cell phone number and he started sending her text messages about how he was determined for her to give him a chance. Student A stated that sometime in mid February 2013, Taylor drove her to the Village in Manhattan where they ate gyro sandwiches. As they left in Taylor's vehicle, Taylor told Student A that he wanted to take her to a motel in the Bronx. Student A stated that she agreed to go because Taylor basically had beaten her down over the months with requests to be intimate with her. Student A stated that she and Taylor had sexual intercourse without the use of a condom or any other contraceptive. Student A stated that about three weeks later she had sex with Taylor a second time, at a motel in downtown Manhattan.

SCI investigators interviewed Student C who stated that approximately three weeks earlier, Taylor removed Student C from her Math class and instructed her to meet him at a McDonald's around the corner from the school.² Student C stated that when she met Taylor at the restaurant, he told her he wanted her to buy some "weed" for him and to then meet him at his home. Student C stated that Taylor gave her his cell phone number, which she wrote on a school Math worksheet, but she never called Taylor.³ Student C stated that she told Taylor that she did not feel comfortable and declined to buy the marijuana for him.

Student C also told investigators that during this same conversation with Taylor he told her he wanted to have sex with her and that he would "fuck the shit out of you [Student C]." Student C told Taylor that she did not want to have sex with him and he

² Student C was interviewed on May 30, 2013.

³ Student C provided the worksheet with Taylor's phone number to the SCI investigator.

responded that if she did not want to have sex with him could he “at least suck on [her] boobs?”

Student C stated that Taylor also told her not to tell anyone about their conversation because he knew where she lived. Asked whether she thought Taylor was threatening her, Student C replied that Taylor was laughing, but she could not be sure whether he was joking or meant it as a threat. Student C also related that she told Student E what Taylor said to her.

On June 20, 2013, SCI investigators interviewed Taylor at his residence. Taylor admitted that he had sexual intercourse with Student A on two occasions. Taylor stated that the first time was about three months earlier when he met Student A after school and drove her to a motel called the Liberty or the Lincoln Inn on 14th Street near 10th Avenue. Taylor stated that about three or four weeks later he again had sexual intercourse with Student A. Taylor said that this time he drove Student A to a motel located in Manhattan on 154th Street. Taylor did not recall the name of the motel.

Taylor then admitted to investigators that he had sexual intercourse with Student D on one occasion in January 2013, at a motel on Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn.

Taylor was asked about his relationship with Student C. Taylor asserted that Student C had a drug problem and he spoke with her at a McDonald’s restaurant near BSS to try to help her. The investigator then asked Taylor if he wanted to help Student C, why did he ask her to bring marijuana to his home. Taylor replied that he never asked Student C to bring marijuana to his home, but admitted that he asked her to buy marijuana for him. Taylor then admitted that he asked Student C to have sex with him and, when she declined, he asked whether he could suck on her breasts, but she also declined this request. Taylor acknowledged that when he inquired about having sex with Student C, he told her he would “fuck the shit out of you.”

Taylor admitted that he told Student E that she had a “big ass” and made other comments about her buttocks and her large breasts.

Taylor was asked about sexual contact with other students at BSS and he admitted having sex with Student G and Student H. Taylor admitted knowing that Student G was 16 when they had sexual intercourse. Taylor stated that the first time he was intimate with Student G was in March 2013, when he drove her to Brooklyn and Student G performed fellatio on him in his car. Taylor stated that the first time he had sexual intercourse with Student G was in the beginning of April 2013, right after Easter. Taylor stated that the second and third time he had sexual intercourse with Student G she also performed fellatio on him. Taylor admitted that he had sexual intercourse two more times with Student G. Taylor said that these sexual encounters with Student G were in a classroom at BSS after 4:00 p.m.

Taylor stated that he had sexual intercourse with Student H approximately seven or eight times. Taylor said that the first time he had sex with Student H was in late December 2012, in the back seat of his vehicle, on a street in the Whitestone section of the Bronx. Taylor said that Student H also performed oral sex on him. Taylor admitted having sexual intercourse with Student H three or four times at the Capri Motel in the Bronx and one time in his car, on a street just off Archer Avenue in Mount Vernon in Westchester County.

Taylor told investigators that sometime around the end of April 2013, or early May 2013, he had sexual intercourse with Student H twice in a classroom at BSS.

Taylor provided investigators with a written statement.

SCI investigators interviewed Student G who said that her friend, Student D, had a sexual relationship with Taylor sometime around January 2013, and that Student D really had feelings for Taylor. Student G stated that she could tell that Taylor liked Student G, but Student G did not really pay any attention to Taylor. However, Student G said that Student D told her that Taylor asked Student D whether she would agree to have a sexual “threesome” involving Taylor, Student D and Student G. Student G stated that Student D told Taylor that Student D would not agree to this arrangement.

Student G said that shortly thereafter, sometime around March 2013, Taylor pulled her aside and they had a conversation which turned sexual in nature. Student G stated that Taylor spoke with her about having sex with him and she eventually agreed. Student G stated that the first time she was intimate with Taylor was sometime in March 2013, when Taylor drove her to Brooklyn and she performed oral sex on Taylor in his car. Student G said that in March and April of 2013, she had sex a total of three times with Taylor in different classrooms on the 5th floor of BSS. On two of these occasions, Student G said she performed oral sex on Taylor.

SCI investigators interviewed Student H who stated that in November 2012, she started talking to Taylor, whom Student H knew as a dean in the school, about her personal problems. In the beginning of December 2012, Taylor started talking to her in a more romantic way. Student H stated that Taylor told her he was single with a daughter whose mother worked in a nail salon near the United Nations in Manhattan. Student H related that sometime in the middle of December 2012, after she turned 17, she had sex with Taylor at the Capri Motel in the Bronx. Student H stated that over the next few months she and Taylor had sex at the Capri Motel about five or six times. Asked whether she ever had sex with Taylor anywhere else, Student H replied that they had sex in his car about 10 or 20 times. Student H stated that sex in Taylor’s car occurred in the Bronx and Mount Vernon, near her residence. Student H was asked whether she engaged in sex with Taylor in the school and she replied that she did not. Told that Taylor had admitted that they had sex in the classroom, Student H responded that they were alone on a couple

of occasions in the classroom at BSS and Taylor attempted to have sex with her, but she would not let it happen. Student H stated that they fondled each other and Taylor took out his penis, but she never had sex in the school. Student H stated that the last time she had sex with Taylor was in May 2013, at the Capri Motel. Student H said that she and Taylor were in an exclusive relationship with each other and she considered Taylor to be her boyfriend. Student H said that Taylor told Student H that he loved her and wanted her to have his child. Taylor never used a condom when they had sex.

Efforts to interview Student D were unsuccessful.

The cell phone used by Taylor was assigned to Taylor's wife. A review of records relating to it showed:

- Between November 16, 2012 and May 30, 2013, Taylor's mobile phone was used to call Student H's mobile phone 229 times.
- Between November 17, 2012 and June 5, 2013, Student H's mobile phone was used to call Taylor's mobile phone 558 times. Of the 558 calls, 182 went to Taylor's voice mail as noted by the "F" under call direction on the phone records.
- Between January 14 and March 22, 2013, there were four calls from Taylor's number to Student G's mobile phone. On three of the four calls from Taylor's mobile phone, the "*67" command was used to block Taylor's mobile phone number. There were two calls made on January 14, 2013 from Student G's mobile phone one of which went to Taylor's voice mail.
- Between January 24 and May 31, 2013 there were 118 calls from Taylor's mobile phone to Student A's mobile phone.
- Between January 24 and May 25, 2013, there were 135 calls from Student A's mobile phone, 16 of which were to Taylor's voice mail.
- Between February 26 and May 31, 2013, Taylor sent Student A 2,959 text messages; during that same period Student A sent Taylor 3,097 text messages.
- Between January 14 and March 19, 2013, Taylor sent Student G 28 text messages and during that same period Student G sent Taylor 23 text messages.
- Between February 26 and June 5, 2013, Taylor sent Student H 3,630 text messages and during that same period Student H sent Taylor 3,981 text messages.

It is the recommendation of this office that Malik Taylor continue to remain ineligible for employment in the DOE and that this matter be taken into account should he apply for any position with the DOE or its affiliates in the future.

We are referring this matter to New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr. and Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes for whatever action they deem appropriate.

We are forwarding a copy of this letter concerning this investigation to the Office of Legal Services. Should you have any inquiries regarding the above, please contact First Deputy Commissioner Regina Loughran, the attorney assigned to the case. She can be reached at (212) 510-1426. Please notify First Deputy Commissioner Loughran within 30 days of receipt of this letter of what, if any, action has been taken or is contemplated regarding Malik Taylor. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

RICHARD J. CONDON
Special Commissioner
of Investigation for the
New York City School District

RJC:RAL:gm

c: Courtenaye Jackson-Chase, Esq.
Laura Brantley, Esq.
Katherine Rodi, Esq.