

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JANUARY 25, 2016

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JULIE DATKO (740) 833-2755

ELEMENTARY TEACHER GUILTY OF SEXUALLY ABUSING STUDENTS



A jury has found former Olentangy Local School District teacher, Matthew Rausenberg, guilty of sexually abusing his students.

After nearly eight hours of deliberation, the jury found 40-year-old Rausenberg guilty on 41 of 42 counts including four counts of kidnapping – all first-degree felonies, three counts of pandering sexually oriented material involving a minor – all second-degree felonies, and 34 counts of gross sexual imposition – all third-degree felonies.

Rausenberg faces life in prison. Sentencing for the former Arrowhead Elementary teacher is set for Thursday at 9 a.m.



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JANUARY 28, 2016

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MATTHEW RAUSENBERG SENTENCED TO 106 YEARS TO LIFE



On Monday evening a jury found Matthew Rausenberg guilty of sexually abusing his students in the Olentangy Local School District. Today, Judge David Gormley sentenced the former Arrowhead Elementary teacher to 106 years to life in prison.

"I cannot say enough about the young girls who came forward to testify," said Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O'Brien. "Brave isn't a big enough word to describe them. I hope now that the trial is over they and their families can continue to heal, knowing that their courage in stepping forward has put this predator behind bars."

M. Rausenberg

Rausenberg had been a teacher in the Olentangy District since August 2001. The 42-count indictment against him specified misconduct from 2006 through 2015 and included nine victims.

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"Emotionally this was a tough case," said O'Brien. "No one wants to believe that a teacher, someone who children, parents, and the entire community trust, could abuse those they are supposed to nurture and protect."

In addition to the above charges, Rausenberg was also found guilty of 39 school safety zone specifications and two sexual motivation specifications.

Rausenberg was indicted in March 2015. Charges came after authorities received a tip from a former student, now a teenager.