

The transgressions taken by Marc Jacques and the Kearsarge school board are a bit unbelievable and quite unforgivable. You started by allowing state law (HB1205) to be violated, you then introduced everything after that blindly. Keeping a logical boundary would have prevented ALL of this. Shame on you for thinking you knew better. So many people are hurt by your decisions. All preventable. You allow the law violation, which then gives the impression to people (like Marc Jacques) who are wanting to break other conditions, that they have the green light to do so.

Marc Jacques did what he wanted and asked for forgiveness later. He clearly did that with his job at Dartmouth. He kept it for 6 months after his plea agreement was accepted. I'm sure everyone thought he was going to leave his job at a school. But yet he didn't.

This situation with him at the high school and soccer fields was NOT safely planned out either. Don't say you arranged things so everyone would be safe. You didn't. The boundaries were simply removed around him and everyone, even the local police participated, all to further the justification of your first boundary violation. If the player is told no, one player is affected and the player can play on a coed team. We have a coed team offered in my town right now. If you decide to violate the law (without any specific injunction for this student) you affect the team players, their families, the community and it becomes national news. YOU did that! Well, really HE did that. This was all ultimately orchestrated by a sick sex offender. Unfortunately, you fell for it. Master manipulator he is. Now we must look back and assess each opportunity he had to offend against our children. Be transparent! You made a big mistake. Apologize and tell us, so those affected can process this.

My understanding here is that you knew he was a convicted sex offender awaiting the start of his incarceration. You knew he had restrictions around children and you thought that under the right circumstances, you could violate those conditions. Like if you had the police attend home games. His conditions don't say anything about him attending children's events without a chaperone. They say "no unsupervised contact with any minor children, other than own children". Standard practice would be for a sex offending parent/guest to have a trained chaperone and that would be the "supervisor" described in his court document. I'm not sure why everyone thought that he didn't need any kind of standards or supervision. Who was his assigned "supervisor"? You might say "the police" when he was attending Kearsarge

games, but what about the other games? Why didn't you or the police warn anyone at any other location? Did you clue anyone in, and how? Tell us who knew and why many were kept in the dark or were censored. What schools were warned? What did you say the risks were?

Apologize for the missteps and learn from them. Set policy on this topic. Restricting sex offenders from school grounds is a pretty common thing to do. I don't think the community will fight you on it. You could say something like ...any sex offender who is registered or convicted pending incarceration would be prevented from school grounds. Judges or supervising probation and parole officers can write in specific conditions for their clients. You should always get them in writing. Some sex offenders don't have to register or do not have crimes against children. Many no longer have probation or parole officers to reach out to. You will have to decide how you want to handle some offenders. You CAN get specific, but I would say a strong boundary is important. Manipulators look for loopholes.

Safety is an expectation around our children in schools. Let's show everyone that safety is your motivation. Apologize and set standards. I'm very disappointed in how the Kearsarge School District handled both safety in women's sports and the safety of the community by providing opportunities for a known offender to take liberties around our children. He doesn't have rights as one might think. His rights are on the 5 pages of conditions that I've attached. Once you knew, you never should have entertained his participation within our school community. Common sense tells me that. Please explain.

Betsy Harrington  
High School Soccer Mom