

From: Megan Bernard megan@glencoeanchor.com
Subject: Updated story this week
Date: August 14, 2017 at 2:14 PM
To: Dave Stroud one2halfstep@hotmail.com

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Hi Dave,

Here's what printing for Thursday's paper:

[Files: No molestation, but history of anger, lewd writing](#)

Within the Glencoe Public Schools District 35 public release of records involving a retired teacher who has been recently accused of child molestation, The Glencoe Anchor found no allegations or mentions of sexual abuse.

The retired teacher, Marvin Martin, taught for 40 years at the district and came under fire when an alleged sexual abuse victim came forward. After former Glencoe resident and student Dave Stroud shared his story on social media, it made its way to a School Board meeting on July 27, where the district addressed the claims.

Since The Anchor has heard from another alleged victim who wished to remain anonymous and who did not file a full report with Glencoe police.

In a letter responding to a request for Martin's files from The Anchor, D35 Superintendent Catherine Wang stated independent of the request, the district has decided to voluntarily release to the public files related to Martin.

While The Anchor found no reports of sexual abuse by Martin, there was evidence of history of anger issues.

In a 1991 incident, when a student was allegedly being disciplined, Martin, in his own words, "took [the student] by the upper arm and hustled him back into my office. He seemed to panic. ... When he wouldn't stop talking, I put my hand over his mouth. He screamed out. ... He said his lip was cut."

The boy, who reportedly was sneaking a look at report card grades, had a different account when he told the principal.

To Martin, then-principal Nelson Armour wrote: "You expressed that those couple of minutes were a blank to you. ... This would suggest the intensity of the emotions of the teacher during the heat of the moment. [The student] said that he was called a 'sick, sick child,' and was told by you, 'no one can do this to me.' He also recalls being shook at some time during the episode."

Armour then asked Martin "not to confer with students on disciplinary issues in your office."

After the alleged incident, Armour also wrote to Martin, "There have been occasions in the past years in which Tom [Amos] has discussed with you times in which your

in the past years in which Tom [Amos] has discussed with you times in which your anger was noted by students or parents.”

In the document release, there are no records of those conversations between Amos and Martin or of the “anger” incidents reported by parents.

Aside from the alleged anger issues, Martin’s file holds salary forms, lunchtime detention supervision reimbursements and glowing reviews from parents.

“I do not believe I have ever seen him turned on so much by all of his school activities,” one parent — whose name was redacted — wrote to Martin about her child.

Another parent wrote, “In just 20 hours of summer school, you managed to widen horizons for our son ... by introducing him to and helping him appreciate the fine arts. ... Now that he has had a four-week preview of the ‘Martin mystique’ he hopes, as we do, that he will be fortunate enough to have the whole show in sixth grade.”

The file also included some of Martin’s personal writings, which he sent to unknown colleagues in 1983. His writing was inspired, he wrote, from the time Martin spent at the Taylor Children’s Home in Kenosha, Wis.

Within the manuscript, he wrote about the children of the home and their stories, including recounts of toweling off adolescent boys, of knowing when the boys masturbated, and of a graphic sex education lesson he gave the boys.

“If I ever seek to publish this, I will work harder to disguise identities,” Martin said in an attached memo to his colleagues.

There is no record of any response to Martin from his colleagues or administration about the writings.

Also within the records, is the reported reason Martin left the district. The documents reference Martin’s declining health and financial trouble — though specific details are redacted — toward the end of his career. Much of his problems, he says, were a result of his demanding position, including the long hours he spent at the school, the trips he took with students and the commute from Wisconsin, where he moved to in 1995.

In result, Martin took a much-debated sabbatical for the 1995-1996 school year and then retired later in 1996.

In his retirement letter to superintendent Dr. Phillip Price, Martin writes: “I have spent evenings, weekends and vacation times with my students. I have taken 205 Glencoe children on 30 trips to 47 of the United States, Canada and the British Isles. The longest trip lasted 53 days and took us 12,500 miles through 15 states and two Canadian provinces. I have led thirteen New York theater and sightseeing tours. I have taken children on scores of weekend outings all over the Midwest from Hannibal, Missouri, to Holland, Michigan, and from northern Indiana to the

Wisconsin Dells.”

Preceding the file release was Stroud’s abuse allegations. Not a student of Martin’s, Stroud reported that Martin baby-sat him and his brothers while the family’s parents were out of town in the early 1970s. One evening, Martin allegedly came in Stroud’s room and sexually abused him. He was a fourth-grader at the time.

The second anonymous alleged abuse victim said Martin inappropriately touched him during a trip with Martin and other students to New York City.

D35 stated it is not aware of any ongoing police investigation regarding Martin. The School Board is still doing its due diligence, like searching through records, D35 attorney Mike Loizzi said.

For more info regarding the records, call (847) 835-7800.

To obtain Martin’s personnel file records, there is a form available on the district’s website, www.glencoeschools.org.

According to the site, materials will be sent via the mail only. Requests will be fulfilled within five business days of receipt. Due to the sensitivity of this information, any requests must come from those 18 years of age and older.

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