

**News Release from**  
**The Honorable Sandra Doorley**  
**Monroe County District Attorney**

October 24, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIRECTOR: Calli Marianetti  
Monroe County District Attorney's Office  
47 South Fitzhugh Street  
Rochester, NY 14614  
(585) 753-4532

**Kirk Ashton Convicted of 46 Counts, Including Course of Sexual Conduct  
Against a Child in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Sexual Abuse in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and  
Endangering the Welfare of a Child, for the Ongoing Abuse of Students**

Rochester, NY- On Monday, October 24, 2022, 52-year-old Kirk Ashton was convicted by a Monroe County jury of 11 counts of Sexual Abuse in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, 17 counts of Course of Sexual Conduct Against a Child and 18 counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child for the ongoing sexual abuse of 21 victims. The victims were students at Northwood Elementary School at the time of the abuse, ranging from 2014-2021, when Ashton served as Principal of the school.

This case was investigated by the New York State Police, the Greece Police Department, the Monroe County District Attorney's Office, and Bivona Child Advocacy Center.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Sara Vanstrydonck, Chief of the Special Victims Unit and Assistant District Attorney Amanda Balling, Deputy Chief of the Special Victims Unit.

“Kirk Ashton deliberately used his position of power to prey on the endless supply of little boys at Northwood Elementary School,” said Assistant District Attorney Sara Vanstrydonck. “He is a vile predator who deserves today’s convictions for the harm he has caused these young victims. He hand selected just boys, but after what we saw the last three weeks they were not just boys – they were brave boys who came into court and testified to their principal’s predatory behavior. I am in awe of the victims who had the strength and courage to face their abuser in court and are ultimately responsible for today’s conviction.”

“Kirk Ashton was trusted by parents to keep their children safe, instead, he violated them,” said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “As adults, especially educators, it is our responsibility to protect children and put their interests first. Kirk Ashton targeted those who needed extra support and instead of providing a safe environment, he groomed these children. These victims showed incredible resiliency that we hope will benefit them in their continued journey of recovery.”

Kirk Ashton will be sentenced on November 23, 2022, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

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