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St. Edward High School settles lawsuit with student who accused cross-country teammates of attacking him in sexual manner

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Carol Kovach/Special to Sun News

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By [Adam Ferrise, cleveland.com](https://www.cleveland.com/author/adam-ferrise/)

CLEVELAND, Ohio — St. Edward High School settled a lawsuit out of court with a former student who accused his cross-country teammates of sexually assaulting him.

The attorney for the student, Peter Pattakos, filed a notice with U.S. District Judge Dan Polster that a settlement was reached.

Terms of the settlement were not included in court records, and Pattakos said the terms are confidential. Messages were left for school officials. One of the school's attorneys, Richard Blake, also declined comment.

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The lawsuit, [filed in May 2021](#), said teammates attacked the teen five times and that school officials did little to investigate the incidents. In each case, an older teammate threw the younger boy down, pinned his arms and simulated a sex act, according to the lawsuit.

All five incidents happened in 2019, when the student, whose name is not included in the lawsuit, was a freshman. Three incidents happened at a running camp, one at a hotel in Dayton while the team was there for a meet and another during a team meal, the lawsuit said.

One of the attacks was recorded and shared on social media, according to the lawsuit. The recording became known as the "Rape video," the lawsuit said.

One of the teammates was charged in Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court.

School officials conducted an investigation that consisted of asking students leading questions, including if the student who was attacked seemed upset, according to the lawsuit.

Adam Ferrise covers federal courts at cleveland.com and The Plain Dealer. You can find his work [here](#).

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