

Vertus school employee fired after sex with student

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Vertus Charter School in Rochester said Monday it had fired a receptionist after finding out she allegedly had sex with a student.

The woman, identified by the school as Kristal Lowry, was hired in January 2017 after undergoing a background check.

She was fired Nov. 28 after the school found she had sent inappropriate Facebook messages to several students over the summer. On Nov. 29, the school discovered Lowry allegedly had a sexual relationship with one student who was at least 17 years old, the age of consent in New York.

“We have no greater responsibility than to protect the safety of the students in our care,” school co-founder Perry White said in a statement. “We will not tolerate anything or anyone who interferes with that responsibility. ... We have turned all information over to the authorities and will continue to fully cooperate with them.” Vertus, an all-male charter high school on Humboldt Street in Rochester, was founded in 2014.

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