

Webster teacher arrested

Cops: He took photos of 2 kids in bathroom

VICTORIA E. FREILE @VFREILE AND SARAH TADDEO @SJTADDEO

A Webster teacher accused of filming two students as they changed clothing in a school bathroom was arrested Wednesday by Webster police.

Terrance P. Hoctor, a fourth-grade teacher at State Road Elementary, was charged Wednesday with two counts of unlawful surveillance, a felony, and two counts of endangering the welfare of a child, a misdemeanor, according to Webster Police Chief Joseph Rieger.

Hoctor, 44, of Webster, is accused of taking photos of two female students with a mobile phone as the girls changed their clothing in a school bathroom, Rieger said. Hoctor has been a teacher with Webster Central School District since September 2006.

“The charges are alarming, and understandably so,” said Webster Superintendent Carmen Gumina, who declined to answer other questions addressing rumors about Hoctor that swirled on social media following the incident.

Police have been working closely with district officials since they learned of the allegations. The investigation has spanned several weeks and the incident reportedly took place inside State Road Elementary School on March 3.

The two girls involved are State Road students, Gumina said. It was not known why Hoctor was allegedly in the same bathroom as the girls on March 3.

“It took a lot of courage for these young children to come forward and say something,” Rieger said during a news conference.

After being made aware of the investigation, Hoctor was placed on paid administrative leave on March 6. Additional counseling services have been made available for students in connection with the incident, said Gumina.

Hoctor was arraigned in Webster Town Court on Wednesday and remanded to the Monroe County Jail. He was released on \$40,000 bail bond Wednesday afternoon, Rieger said.

Assistant District Attorney Sara VanStrydonck said the case been referred to a Monroe County grand jury.

VFREILE@Gannett.com STADDEO@Gannett.com



Police say Terrance P. Hctor, a fourth-grade teacher, took mobile phone photos of two students changing clothes in a school bathroom.