

Ex-Beechwood superintendent gives up teaching license amid sex controversy

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Former Beechwood Superintendent Mike Stacy never told the Kentucky Board of Education about a teacher who was accused of grooming and having sexual contact with a teenager who attended the school.

Now, he’s out of a job and has agreed to not renew his educator certification in the state of Kentucky.

Stacy told The Enquirer this spring that he was leaving his job – and his \$168,167 pay – because he was eligible for retirement and had a new employment opportunity outside of the K-12 education realm.

“It’s almost become a superhuman job. It’s almost more than one person can do,” he said at the time. A records request to the district revealed no grievances filed against him.

Documents from the Kentucky Department of Education’s Education Professional Standards Board tell a different story – one in which he was accused of creating an “unreasonably dangerous situation for all students in the Commonwealth.”

The allegations against him stem from a 2022 incident in which former Beechwood teacher faced a slew of allegations, including that he groomed and had “sexual contact” with at least one student or former student.

Stacy, the documents state, was obligated under state law to report the incident to the board, which has the authority to suspend or terminate teachers’ licenses.

He didn’t. Stacy did not return a phone call from The Enquirer seeking an interview.

The district said in a statement that Stacy never reported the incident to the standards board because he didn’t believe the report was warranted for a variety of reasons. For instance, the district never received a complaint about the teacher from students or former students and the teacher was never charged with a crime.

Here’s how Stacy’s inaction led to an agreement with the Education Professional Standards Board that eventually ended his career in education.

‘A little bit of grooming’

On March 23, 2022, Kentucky State Police interviewed a Beechwood teacher who was employed at the district from 2017-2022.

Since he was never charged with a crime, The Enquirer is not naming him. But according to documents from the standards board, the state police detective reported that the teacher admitted to having “sexual contact” with a student.

During the interview, the teacher allegedly agreed that there was “a little bit of grooming going on” with two kids.

The documents state the teacher also admitted to sending at least one student or former student photos of himself without a shirt on, worked out at the gym with the person and had

“sexual contact” with the person. But he told police he wasn’t sure if the sexual contact happened while the young person was a student.

It’s unclear where the interview took place within the district, but Stacy and Justin Kaiser, Beechwood High School principal, were both in the room where it happened, the documents note. Kaiser was appointed superintendent in May 2025.

The teacher resigned from his job that spring and surrendered his educator certification in May 2024 after someone filed a complaint against him with the Kentucky Board of Education.

‘Bad decision making’ or an ethics violation?

The standards board also received a complaint against Stacy last year.

In it, the complainant said Stacy was legally obligated to report the teacher to the standards board following the man’s resignation. The complaint cited Kentucky state law 161.120, which gives a long list of reasons teachers can be reported to the board for an investigation.

That includes engaging in sexual contact with a student, dishonest or immoral behavior, and



Beechwood Independent Schools Superintendent Mike Stacy left the school district at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. ENQUIRER FILE PHOTO

careless disregard of the welfare of others.

But Stacy never filed a report on the teacher.

Stacy said in the standards board documents that he was in-and-out of the detective’s interview with the teacher and did not hear the man admit to grooming students.

“I was told – by the detective – ... that he didn’t have enough to even detain (the teacher) for further questioning because he and the alleged victim were holding to the claim that the relationship was post graduation,” he wrote.

Stacy also said he gave the teacher two options after the interview: to resign or risk an open investigation that would include all the band students at the school. The teacher decided to resign.

“I had no information to sustain an ethics violation from facts presented by the state police detective, or the part of the interview I heard,” Stacy wrote. “Bad decision making, yes ... bad decisions do not necessarily equal an ethics violation.”

In May, Stacy agreed to

an order with the standards board that prohibited him from renewing his educator certification and barred him from seeking employment that requires the certification in the state of Kentucky.

Beechwood: There was no ‘cover up’

Kaiser, the district’s new superintendent, did not respond to an emailed request from The Enquirer for an interview about the incidents.

Instead, the district said in a statement through attorney Jeremy

Deters that there was never an attempt by Stacy to “cover up” the allegations against the teacher.

“Beechwood does not condone employee misconduct, and Dr. Stacy never attempted to cover up or hide any alleged inappropriate behavior by the teacher in question. ... Dr. Stacy never received any report from any student or former student alleging misconduct by the teacher,” the statement said.

The statement goes on to say that Stacy did not make the report because he did not “reasonably believe he had information that would warrant such a report,” because the teacher was never charged with a crime.

State law, however, does not require criminal charges to be filed against a teacher in order to be investigated by the standards board.

The statement confirmed that the 2022 investigation stemmed from complaints about a former teacher and a student who graduated in 2020.

The Enquirer has requested public records from the standards about any grievances filed against Kaiser to determine if a complaint has been filed against him for not reporting the teacher.

NOTICE

Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. (Duke Energy Kentucky or Company) hereby gives notice that, in an application to be filed no later than July 1, 2025, Duke Energy Kentucky will be seeking approval by the Public Service Commission, Frankfort, Kentucky, of an adjustment of its Pipeline Modernization Mechanism (Rider PMM) rates and charges proposed to become effective on and after January 1, 2026. The Commission has docketed this proceeding as Case No. 2025-00229.

DUKE ENERGY KENTUCKY PRESENT AND PROPOSED RATES

The present and proposed rates charged in all territories served by Duke Energy Kentucky are as follows:

Residential Service – Rate RS		
Present Rates		
Rate RS, Residential Service		\$0.12/ccf
Proposed Rates		
Rate RS, Residential Service		\$0.24/ccf
General Service – Rate GS		
Present Rates		
Rate GS, General Service		\$0.03/ccf
Proposed Rates		
Rate GS, General Service		\$0.06/ccf
Firm Transportation Service – Large Rate FT-L		
Present Rates		
Rate FT-L, Firm Transportation Service – Large		\$0.00102/ccf
Proposed Rates		
Rate FT-L, Firm Transportation Service – Large		\$0.00190/ccf
Interruptible Transportation – Rate IT		
Present Rates		
Rate IT, Interruptible Transportation		\$0.00115/ccf
Proposed Rates		
Rate IT, Interruptible Transportation		\$0.00224/ccf

IMPACT OF PROPOSED RATES

These rates reflect an increase in gas revenues of approximately \$16,755,374 for 2026 to Duke Energy Kentucky. The allocation of this estimated increase among rate classes is as follows:

Rate RS – Residential Service	\$ 14,565,782	86.9%
Rate GS – General Service	\$ 2,095,427	12.5%
Rate FT-L – Firm Transportation Service (Includes DGS)	\$ 57,136	0.4%
Rate IT – Interruptible Transportation Service	\$ 37,029	0.2%

The average monthly bill for each customer class to which the proposed rates will apply will increase(decrease) approximately as follows:

Rate RS – Residential Service	\$ 6.00	6.32%
Rate GS – General Service	\$ 11.70	2.07%
Rate FT-L – Firm Transportation Service (Includes DGS)	\$ 14.52	0.31%
Rate IT – Interruptible Transportation Service	\$ 98.74	0.92%

The rates contained in this notice are the rates proposed by Duke Energy Kentucky; however, the Commission may order rates to be charged that differ from the proposed rates contained in this notice. Such action may result in a rate for consumers other than the rates in this notice.

Any corporation, association, body politic or person with a substantial interest in the matter may, by written request within thirty (30) days after publication of this notice of the proposed rate changes, request leave to intervene; intervention may be granted beyond the 30-day period for good cause shown. Such motion shall be submitted to the Kentucky Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 615, 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615, and shall set forth the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of the initial publication, the Commission may take final action on the application.

Intervenor may obtain copies of the application and other filings made by the Company by requesting same through email at DEKInquiries@duke-energy.com or by telephone at (513) 287-4366. A copy of the application and other filings made by the Company are available for public inspection through the Commission’s website at <http://psc.ky.gov>, at the Commission’s office at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am. to 4:30 p.m., and at the following Company office: Erlanger Ops Center, 1262 Cox Road, Erlanger, Kentucky 41018. Comments regarding the application may be submitted to the Public Service Commission through its website, or by mail at the following Commission address.

For further information contact:

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