



ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE
Catholic Community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. John Nepomucene School statement

LITTLE CHUTE, Wis. (Aug. 28, 2019) – A recent Associated Press news article has reported that a former teacher at St. John Nepomucene Catholic School in Little Chute (Outagamie County), Paul West, is being investigated for allegations of sexual abuse of a minor in Mississippi. The article indicated that the Outagamie County District Attorney’s office is reviewing the matter.

St. John Nepomucene Catholic School is now receiving questions relating to Mr. West’s application for employment, background check and references. At the time of Mr. West’s hiring, in 1999, a background check was completed and the report came back clear. Reference checks conducted by St. John Nepomucene Catholic School at the time of Mr. West’s application for employment were also completed, and no substantiated allegations were revealed.

During the time that Mr. West was employed, background checks were completed by the Diocese of Green Bay in 2004, 2008, and 2012, as part of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, and all reports came back clear.

It is important to note that since 1994 Mr. West was also licensed as a teacher through the State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. As part of his initial licensure a background check would have been run, and repeated every five years as part of his DPI teacher license renewal.

Neither St. John Nepomucene Catholic School, nor the Diocese of Green Bay have received any allegations during his tenure or since related to Mr. West’s employment at St. John Nepomucene Catholic School.

In our ongoing commitment to healing, we ask that if you know of an incident of sexual abuse, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES.

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