When arriving to her Spanish classroom on Tuesday morning, a teacher finds a note on her desk that says:

“Monday in the photography lab, John Roe pinned me down, put his hands down my pants, and put his fingers inside me.” – Jane Doe

The teacher has Jane in her sixth hour Spanish class. School has not yet started, but students are arriving in her classroom for first hour. The teacher thinks there is junior named John Roe in the building, but the teacher does not know for sure.

The teacher knows the principal is in the hallways making sure students get to class at this time of day, so she waits to get her class started before figuring out how to get the note to the principal later. She puts the note in her top desk drawer. Twenty minutes into the hour, the fire alarm sounds. While leading her class outside, she sees Jane in the hallway with her eyes swollen, as if she had been crying. Once outside, the teacher pulls Jane aside and asks her if she is alright.

Jane asks the teacher whether she found the note. The teacher says that she did find the note and that she was planning to talk to the principal about it. Jane begs her not to tell anyone about it. She says she regrets even leaving the note on the teacher’s desk. The teacher, hoping to calm Jane down, tells her she will not report it right away, but that Jane should come talk to her during her lunch.

Is there anything the teacher should have done differently so far?

Report immediately

Not promise confidentiality