

## **Education Reporting submission**

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Child abuse and the sexualization of children in schools has become a hot-button issue in the U.S., but many of the conversations on the topic take place in social media posts that lack detail, context and reliable information. A recent state law that allowed for a wave of lawsuits against child-serving institutions provided a unique trove of public documents that describe the way abuse in schools can actually look.

I spent eight months scouring court records to identify cases filed against Bay Area public schools to write this series of stories. The cases aren't centrally tracked, so there's no official list of lawsuits against school districts. This project also involved many hours of interviews with attorneys, sexual assault survivors, lawmakers and experts in child sexual abuse and school finances.

[Bay Area schools face historic wave of sexual abuse suits — with millions in potential costs](#)

[She warned officials about her teacher. Then he abused another student](#)

[These 51 Bay Area schools face sexual abuse lawsuits. Here are the details of each case](#)