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## Norfolk schools music instructor charged with sexual assault

The Virginian-Pilot Nov 14, 2006

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By AMY JETER

The Virginian-Pilot

VIRGINIA BEACH - An elementary school music instructor for Norfolk Public Schools has been charged with sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl and taking explicit pictures and videos of her.

John R. Sexton Jr., 32, is accused of abusing the girl on more than one occasion, between January 2005 and April of this year.

The victim was not one of his students, police said.

Sexton has been employed by the Norfolk school division since September 2004, and he most recently worked as an orchestra instructor, visiting six different elementary schools, said Vincent Rhodes, a school division spokesman.

Letters explaining the situation will go home to parents of students at the schools, including Calcott, Camp Allen, Campostella, Fairlawn, Tanners Creek and Willoughby, Rhodes said. "There's no indication, based on what we've heard from police, that there were any Norfolk students impacted or involved," Rhodes said. Police are asking parents of students who were taught by Sexton to talk with their children to determine if Sexton acted inappropriately toward them, said Rene Ball, a police spokeswoman.

Sexton was arrested early Saturday, hours after police searched his house, in the 700 block of Fox Run Road in Virginia Beach, according to court records. Police found "items of evidence corroborating the victim's allegations," but a police spokeswoman refused to provide more details. Sexton faces charges of aggravated sexual battery, indecent liberties, production of child pornography, possession of child pornography and two counts of oral sodomy. He was being held without bail in the Virginia Beach Correctional Center.

• *Reach Amy Jeter at (757)446-2730 or amy.jeter@pilotonline.com.* 

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