



# DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CCHS Teacher is Placed on Leave**

Thomas Costello, principal of Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, after consulting with Diocesan Superintendent Deacon Paul D. Ward, has placed Corissa McCalister, 21, teacher, head cross country coach and assistant track coach, on administrative leave.

On April 21, school officials were informed about allegations of sexual abuse involving McCalister. The mother of the alleged victim, a student at the high school, told school officials about the allegations that occurred in Harrison County.

Costello immediately informed the diocese of the allegations, notified civil authorities and placed McCalister on leave.

On April 23, the diocese was informed by Harrison County authorities that charges have been filed.

Based on the information that has been provided, none of the allegations occurred on school grounds.

The faculty of Catholic Central High School and junior high schools were notified by Costello of the charges during a meeting after school on April 23. The parents of all high school and junior high students were also notified about the incident through emails.

Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton said, "I am deeply saddened by news of the allegations and I offer my prayers for healing for the victim and the victim's family as well as the Catholic Central school community." A Diocesan Response Team will be reaching out to the alleged victim's family and the school community to provide support.

Any person aware of abuse by anyone serving on behalf of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Steubenville is encouraged to contact diocesan and civil authorities. In the diocese, people should contact the Victim Assistance Service at [victimassistance43952@gmail.com](mailto:victimassistance43952@gmail.com) or telephone (740) 278-3455.

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