

**PRESS RELEASE:**

Sept. 5, 2025

**Former teacher convicted of aggravated indecent liberties with children**

OFFICE OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY ATTORNEY

TODD THOMPSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

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On Friday, Sept. 5, 2025, Jerome C. Riscovallez, 55, was found guilty of two counts of aggravated indecent liberties with a child after pleading no contest. Prosecutors said Riscovallez, then a teacher in the Leavenworth School District, sexually abused six students in his classroom between Aug. 1, 2023, and Feb. 25, 2025.

According to court records, on Feb. 25, 2025, a Leavenworth police officer was dispatched to investigate a report of a juvenile being inappropriately touched at school. The officer spoke with the parent of an 8-year-old student, identified as Victim 1, who said a Leavenworth School District employee had contacted her. The employee reported that two students came to the office and said they saw Victim 1 being inappropriately touched by a teacher, later identified as Jerome Riscovallez. During a later interview, Victim 1 reported that Riscovallez would hold her hand in class and touch her on her buttock. She stated Riscovallez does weird stuff, like place his hands on her while she's playing with Legos, give her piggyback rides, and put his hand under her clothes. She stated he did this to her because she is his favorite student.

Victim 2, who was 9 years old at the time, was victimized in 2024. She explained that she was given Pokeman cards and Jolly Ranchers and that one time, Riscovallez put his hand on her shoulder and under her shirt.

Victim 3, who was 9 years old at the time, said Riscovallez forced her to sit on his lap and held her in a way that made it difficult for her to get up. According to court documents, the incident was reported to the school in October 2023.

Victim 4, who was 10 years old at the time, was grabbed by the arm and placed on Riscovallez's lap. During this incident, Riscovallez pulled the victim's pants up and touched her buttocks in the process.

Victim 5, who was 8 years old at the time, was given hugs and had her hips rubbed by Riscovallez. After hugging her, Riscovallez would give her Jolly Ranchers.

Victim 6, who was 9 years old at the time, wrote on a piece of paper during an interview that Riscovallez touched her buttocks and then gave her a Jolly Rancher. Court records indicated the victim's mom once questioned her daughter about bringing home candy. The victim claimed she was getting the candy from her teacher (Riscovallez) and that she was the only student to receive candy at that time.

Leavenworth County Attorney Todd Thompson said, "While no outcome can undo the harm caused, this plea holds the defendant accountable under the law and, most importantly, protects the young victims from the retraumatization of having to testify in open court. After careful consultation with the families, and with deep respect for their wishes, we believe this resolution strikes the necessary balance between justice and compassion. The safety and dignity of these children remain our highest priority."

Sentencing is scheduled for Oct. 10 at 1 pm. Charges were initially filed in this case on Feb. 27, 2025.