



Ceres Department of Public Safety

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NEWS RELEASE

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Ceres Teacher Arrested for Inappropriate Behavior with a Student

Ceres, California – On October 24, 2012 Ceres Police Detectives arrested 24 year old Matthew Beale after a parent discovered her 16 year old female daughter received inappropriate and explicit text messages from her teacher over the weekend. Matthew Beale has been employed as a math teacher at Whitmore Charter High School since August, 2012.

On October 23, 2012, the parent complained to the Ceres Unified School District (CUSD) about the text messages her daughter received from Matthew Beale over the past weekend. The district personnel notified the Ceres Police School Resource Officer, who launched an investigation and Matthew Beale was immediately placed on administrative leave.

Ceres detectives quickly followed up on the case and discovered the student and teacher corresponded via hundreds of text messages over the weekend. Among those text messages was a request from Matthew Beale for the student to send him “sexy” pictures of herself. Detectives also found that Matthew Beale had sent the student a photograph of his genitals.

It is further alleged that the student and Matthew Beale met in his classroom on Monday October 22, 2012 during lunch time to make out. Detectives contacted Matthew Beale on October 24, 2012 at his home in Turlock, where he was confronted with copies of the text messages and admitted to his involvement with the student.

Matthew Beale was arrested for sending harmful matter to minor and lewd and lascivious acts on a minor - both charges are misdemeanors. Matthew Beale was booked at the Stanislaus County Jail.

Ceres Detectives believe this is an isolated incident. However, they are asking anyone with any information in reference to this case to contact [Detective Arthur Hively](#) at (209) 537-5728. A booking photo of Matthew Beale is embedded on the following page.



Booking Photo- Matthew Beale