

**Taylor**

**Age: 17**

**Grade: 12**

**Pronouns: she/her**

Taylor is a new grade 12 student in your school. She has been in two other high schools in other school boards, and lives with her biological mother. Her mother has been in regular contact with the school due to issues with her daughter not coming home, not answering her phone, not coming to school and excessive partying. The primary concern is no longer achievement, but the daughter's dysregulation and the limited control she has with her daughter. CAS has previously been involved following an incident with Taylor and her mother's ex-boyfriend. The school principal, vice-principal and mother have spoken about the CAS report as Taylor raised the issue with her guidance counsellor, claiming nothing was done about the sexual assault with her mother's ex-boyfriend.

Taylor's attendance has been increasingly irregular. The last time the school administration team formally met with Taylor and her mother was after Taylor showed up late to school stating that she had been locked up in a house in Oshawa. When they asked for specific details, as they were concerned about the implications of the statement and her safety, Taylor retracted her statement saying she was lying about being locked up.

Today, a teacher shared with the administration that he heard that a group of their high school students regularly party on weekends at a downtown hotel. The teacher further learned that at these parties, there were multiple rooms rented, lots of alcohol and drugs provided, and some older adults there. One of the students named as being involved was Taylor.

The teacher became more concerned when he heard that Taylor invited some grade 9 girls to the hotel. The teacher discovered that the grade 9 students, along with Taylor, spent most of the night in another room while the other grade 12 students continued to party as they had previously done.

When the teacher spoke with one of the grade 9 students, she shared that Taylor did their friend's hair and makeup. They drank a bit and watched movies and hung out with the adults who bought them some fast food. Some of the male adults invited them all back to the hotel next weekend, saying that Taylor will also take them shopping.



**What are the immediate concerns?**

**What are your long-term concerns?**

**In your role as school administrator, what future staff development arises as a result of this case study?**

**Ask yourself**

- Is there a duty to report anything at this point? To whom? Is this a police matter?
- Is there any need to address the CAS report?
- Why did Taylor retract her statement about being locked up in a house?
- Are other students in other schools involved?
- Are students from Taylor's former school involved?
- What would your approach (if any) be with the parents of the grade 9 students?
- Do you contact Taylor's previous school administrators?

**What would it look like if...?**

- All of the students involved were all in grade 12.
- Taylor was 18 years old.
- Taylor posted some of the partying on her social media?