Long Island teacher arrested on child porn charges

By Kristin Thorne
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CORAM (WABC) -- A teacher at a junior high school on Long Island is facing charges of possessing child pornography and sharing it over the internet.

Detectives in the Computer Crimes Unit tracked down 34-year-old Christopher Teague, a math teacher at Longwood Junior High School in Middle Island, based on a tip from internet service providers.

He was arrested and charged with possessing a sexual performance by a child and promoting a sexual performance by a child.

Teague, who is unmarried, does not have children and lives alone, pleaded not guilty and is adamant about his innocence. Prosecutors contend that he admitted to having and distributing the porn, which allegedly featured children less than 16 years old. They also say he used Skype to other computer users about his liking of young children.

“Mr. Teague has been placed on an administrative leave of absence and will not have any contact with students pending the outcome of a criminal investigation,” School Superintendent Allan Gerstenlauer said. “The Suffolk County Police Department has indicated that, at this point, they do not have any evidence of inappropriate involvement with Longwood students.”

Students who spoke with Eyewitness News said they love the teacher, who has been at the school about seven years. Teague has no criminal history.

Teague's attorney, Michael Brown, said Teague denies the allegations.

“He is a teacher and loves dealing with kids,” Brown said. “He is devastated by the charges.”

Teague has been removed from the classroom at Longwood Junior High School in Middle Island pending the outcome of the case.

Police said that so far they have not found any evidence of inappropriate conduct with students.

Teague was ordered held on $50,000 bond. Brown said he expected his client to make bail.