

Russian Students Rally in Support of Teacher Who Beat Classmate

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Students gather to sign a petition in support of Baulin. [VI.ru](#)

School students in Russia's Far East have come out in support of their gym teacher after he was suspended for beating one of their classmates, media [reported](#) Thursday.

Valery Baulin was [suspended](#) from his position at a school in Vladivostok after a video posted on social media [showed](#) him punching and choking a 12-year-old student during class. A teacher who had reportedly asked Baulin to deal with the sixth-grader's misbehavior also faces suspension.

Russia's Investigative Committee, which probes major crimes, [launched](#) a criminal investigation into Baulin's "failure to fulfill caretaking duties for a minor," a crime punishable by up to three years imprisonment.

Local media said students gathered in front of their school to sign a petition in support of Baulin.

Embed:

Video of the petition-singing showed crowds of children standing beside a sign that read “Valery Vasilyevich [Baulin]! Sambo. Sport. Hurray.”

“Valery Vasilyevich [Baulin] is a calm man. You need to try hard to drive him out of his wits,” said a student identified only as Vlad.

Local media was unable to find out who organized the petition, which was signed by “several dozen” people.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/09/28/russian-students-rally-in-support-of-teacher-who-beat-classmate-a82598>