

Kasson, Minn.

Bullying suicide: They called her a “slut” and defaced her books with chewing gum, threatening violence in a vicious bullying campaign that went on for months, her parents said. And last week, seventh-grader Rachel Ehmke, 13, who had never kissed a boy, hung herself in her bedroom, leaving behind a note that read, “I wish I could tell you how I really feel.” School officials are cooperating with a police inquiry, which could see charges brought against the girls allegedly involved in the bullying. “We thought she was dealing with it and the school thought she was dealing with it,” said her father, Rick Ehmke, who said Rachel and a friend had been eating lunch in a locker room to get away from her bullies. Mark Matuska, superintendent of Kasson-Mantorville School District, conceded the seriousness of the attacks. An incident last week was disturbing enough “that we felt it necessary to contact law enforcement,” said Matuska.