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## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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*Chris Reykdal* Old Capitol Building · PO BOX 47200 · Olympia, WA 98504-7200 · <http://www.k12.wa.us>

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RE: Erik Wood  
OSPI Case Number: D18-02-010  
Document: Final Order of Suspension

Regarding your request for information about the above-named educator; attached is a true and correct copy of the document on file with the State of Washington, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Office of Professional Practices. These records are considered certified by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Certain information may have been redacted pursuant to Washington state laws. While those laws require that most records be disclosed on request, they also state that certain information should not be disclosed.

The following information has been withheld: **None**

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the information that was redacted, if any, please contact:

OSPI Public Records Office  
P.O. Box 47200  
Olympia, WA 98504-7200  
Phone: (360) 725-6372  
Email: [PublicRecordsRequest@k12.wa.us](mailto:PublicRecordsRequest@k12.wa.us)

You may appeal the decision to withhold or redact any information by writing to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200.



# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION	)	
CERTIFICATE OF	)	OPP No. D18-02-010
	)	
ERIK WOOD	)	FINAL ORDER
Certificate No. 409938H	)	OF SUSPENSION
	)	

After receiving and investigating a notification of disciplinary action by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing from the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Credentialing (NASDTEC) regarding the above referenced educator, and based upon the facts available as of the date of this Proposed Order, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, through his undersigned designee, institutes this proceeding and finds, as described below, that ERIK WOOD (“Educator”) engaged in acts of unprofessional conduct to include WAC 181-87-060, and does hereby SUSPEND the Educator’s Washington Education Certificate No. 409938H for not less than twelve (12) months with conditions enumerated below, based on the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

## I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On July 28, 2003, the Educator was issued Washington Education Certificate, No. 409938H. The Educator’s certificate, a First Issue Residency certificate, does not hold a printed expiration date until the Educator is eligible to register for a professional certificate assessment under WAC 181-79A-206.

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ERIK WOOD  
FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION

2. On December 7, 2017, the Office of Professional Practices (“OPP”) within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (“OSPI”) received notice that the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing had taken disciplinary action with the Educator’s California educator license.
3. From July 1, 2003 to April 11, 2016, the Educator was employed with the Los Angeles Unified School District (“LAUSD”) as an Elementary School teacher.
4. From December 2004 to April 2013, the Educator was repeatedly directed by 107th Street Elementary School administrators to adhere to, among other things, the LAUSD Employee Code of Ethics, LAUSD Code of Conduct, LAUSD Board Resolution on Respectful Treatment of Others, and the LAUSD Anti-Bullying Policy.
5. On February 2, 2012, the Educator used inappropriate physical force when he choked and then stepped on the foot of Student A, a male elementary school student.
6. On February 6, 2012, the Educator used inappropriate physical force when he grabbed Student B, a male elementary school student, by the hood of his clothing, causing the student to choke, and then pulled Student B’s arm behind his back as the Educator escorted Student B to the school office.
7. On March 22, 2013, the Educator, in an inappropriate display of anger, confronted a school staff member about the condition of student lunches.
8. On May 21, 2013, the Educator used inappropriate physical force with Student C, a male elementary school student.
  - a. The Educator contacted Student C to question why he was not in class,
  - b. Student C responded with explicit language and walked away from the Educator.
  - c. The Educator grabbed and pulled a strap on Student C’s backpack causing the strap to break, and Student C fell to the ground, hitting his head on the concrete.

9. On September 23, 2014, the Educator used inappropriate physical force with Student D, a male elementary school student.

a. The Educator grabbed Student D by the arm, had the student sit between the Educator's legs, and restrained Student D from leaving the area.

b. Other Educators and school employees nearby asked the Educator, more than once, to release the student.

c. The Educator released Student D after being informed by other staff that they were escorting the student to the office.

10. On October 8, 2014, the Educator was removed from 107th Street Elementary School and reassigned to "housed" status at the Intensive Support and Innovation Center.

11. On April 9, 2015, the Educator received a fifteen (15) day suspension from the LAUSD for his actions against Student D on September 23, 2014.

12. On April 11, 2016, the LAUSD terminated the Educator's employment.

13. On May 26, 2017, after a meeting to review allegations of misconduct, the Committee of Credentials for the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing sent the Educator notification that they found probable cause to recommend the revocation of his California teaching credentials and all other certification documents.

14. On September 15, 2017, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing sent the Educator a letter notifying him of their determination to revoke his California education certificate, effective October 15, 2017.

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15. On November 17, 2017, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing entered the revocation of the Educator’s California Teaching Credentials into the NASDTEC database of state members’ educator discipline.

16. On February 23, 2018, OSPI/OPP sent the Educator a letter offering him the opportunity to respond to the allegations of misconduct that led to his California credentials being revoked. As of the date of this Order, the Educator has not responded.

## **II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Chapter 28A.410 RCW gives the Professional Educator Standards Board the authority to develop regulations determining eligibility for and certification of personnel employed in the common schools of the state of Washington. OSPI acts as the administrator of those statutes and regulations and has the authority to issue, reprimand, suspend, and revoke education certificates. RCW 28A.410.010; RCW 28A.410.090. Chapters 181-86 and 181-87 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) further implement OSPI’s authority.

2. OSPI has jurisdiction over the Educator and the subject matter of this action.

3. The Educator committed acts of unprofessional conduct pursuant to WAC 181-87-060(1) for inappropriate, anger-related, physical interactions with students.

4. There is a clear and convincing evidence that the Educator committed acts of unprofessional conduct pursuant to WAC 181-86-170.

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5. Pursuant to WAC 181-86-080, eleven factors, at a minimum, are to be considered to determine the appropriate level and range of educator discipline:

- (1) The seriousness of the act(s) and the actual or potential harm to persons or property;
- (2) The person's criminal history including the seriousness and amount of activity;
- (3) The age and maturity level of participant(s) at the time of the activity;
- (4) The proximity or remoteness of time in which the acts occurred;
- (5) Any activity that demonstrates a disregard for health, safety or welfare;
- (6) Any activity that demonstrates a behavioral problem;
- (7) Any activity that demonstrates a lack of fitness;
- (8) Any information submitted regarding discipline imposed by any governmental or private entity as a result of acts or omissions;
- (9) Any information submitted that demonstrates aggravating or mitigating circumstances;
- (10) Any information submitted to support character and fitness; and
- (11) Any other relevant information submitted.

6. Based on the foregoing facts and considering them in light of the eleven factors enumerated in WAC 181-86-080, and in light of WAC 181-86-070, WAC 181-87-060, the Educator's education certificate should be suspended for unprofessional conduct and/or a behavioral problem which endangers the educational welfare or personal safety of students, teachers, or other colleagues within the educational setting.

### **III. ORDER**

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 409938H of Erik Wood is **SUSPENDED**. The Educator may not request reinstatement of his education certificate for at least twelve (12) months from the effective date of this ORDER.

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**REINSTATEMENT** of Erik Wood's education certificate shall require:

- (1) The Educator must successfully complete an in-person ANGER MANAGEMENT course, preapproved by OSPI. The Educator will provide proof of completion of the course prior to requesting reinstatement;
- (2) The Educator must successfully complete a CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT course, preapproved by OSPI. The Educator will provide proof of completion of the course prior to requesting reinstatement;
- (3) The Educator must submit a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP;
- (4) The Educator must complete a fingerprint-based criminal background check through both the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Washington State Patrol;
- (5) The Educator's fingerprint background check must return with no criminal convictions occurring after the date of issuance of a Final Order of Suspension, that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, or any felony convictions;
- (6) The Educator shall assume all costs of complying with the requirements of this Order.

DATED this 8th day of January, 2019.

CHRIS REYKDAL  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Washington

Signed: Dierk Meierbachtol  
Chief Legal Officer