



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION)	
CERTIFICATE OF)	OPP No. D17-02-012
)	
OLIVIA SONDHEIM)	FINAL ORDER
Certificate No. 506356E)	OF MANDATORY
)	PERMANENT REVOCATION
)	

After receiving and investigating a complaint from Edmonds School District (“School District”) 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 OLIVIA SONDHEIM (“Educator”) demonstrated a lack of good moral character and personal fitness pursuant to WAC 181-86-013 and WAC 181-86-014, and committed acts of unprofessional conduct pursuant to WAC 181-87-060 and WAC 181-87-080, and does hereby PERMANENTLY REVOKE the Educator’s Washington Education Certificate No. 506356E, pursuant to RCW 28A.410.090(4)(c), based on the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On May 7, 2014, the Educator was issued Washington Education Certificate No. 506356E. The Educator’s certificate does not have a listed expiration date.
2. During the 2015–2016 school year, the Educator was employed by the School District at Lynwood High School as a Choir teacher.

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3. On February 15, 2017, the Office of Professional Practices (“OPP”) within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (“OSPI”) received a complaint from Kristine McDuffy, the Superintendent of the School District, alleging the Educator engaged in acts of unprofessional conduct pursuant to WAC 181-87-080.

4. During the 2015–2016 school year, the Educator engaged in a sexual relationship with at least one student.

5. On March 4, 2019, an Information was filed against the Educator in Snohomish County Superior Court charging her with two counts of First Degree Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, RCW 9A.44.093(1). Cause No. 19-1-00462-31. This offense is a class C felony.

6. On September 4, 2019, an Amended Information was filed against the Educator charging her with one count of First Degree Sexual Misconduct with a Minor.

7. On September 9, 2019, the Educator stipulated to a bench trial on the agreed documentary evidence.

8. On November 4, 2019, the Educator was convicted of one count of First Degree Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, RCW 9A.44.093(1). The Educator was sentenced to 12 months confinement, 12 months of community custody, and required to register as a sex offender.

9. On March 6, 2017, the Educator and the School District entered into a Settlement Agreement in which the Educator resigned from employment with the School District.

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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. Pursuant to WAC 181-86-070, there is clear and convincing evidence the Educator has pleaded guilty to or has been convicted of a crime specified in RCW 28A.410.090(4).
4. Pursuant to RCW 28A.410.090(4), WAC 181-86-013, and WAC 181-86-014, a conviction of First Degree Sexual Misconduct with a Minor, RCW 9A.44.093, bars the certificate holder from any future practice as an education practitioner requires OSPI to permanently revoke the Educator's certificate.
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 181-86-075, WAC 181-86-170, WAC 181-86-040, RCW 28A.410.090(4), WAC 181-87-060, WAC 181-87-080, WAC 181-86-013 and WAC 181-86-014, the Educator's education certificate should be PERMANENTLY REVOKED for demonstrating a lack of good moral character and personal fitness pursuant to WAC 181-86-013 and WAC 181-86-014, committing acts of unprofessional conduct pursuant to WAC 181-87-060 and WAC 181-87-080, and for being convicted of a felony crime which bars the Educator from any future practice as an educator pursuant to RCW 28A.410.090(4).

III. ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate No. 506356E of OLIVIA SONDHEIM is **PERMANENTLY REVOKED**.

DATED this 7th day of February, 2020.

CHRIS REYKDAL
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington



Dierk Meierbachtol
Chief Legal Officer