



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

RANDY I. DORN OLD CAPITOL BUILDING • PO BOX 47200 • OLYMPIA WA 98504-7200 • <http://www.k12.wa.us>

IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION)
CERTIFICATE OF)

OPP No. D12-05-036

Ronald Beauchamp)
Certificate No. 321881E)

AGREED ORDER
OF SUSPENSION

COMES NOW the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, under the authority granted by the laws of the state of Washington, having reviewed the file of the above-referenced case, and having considered the entire evidence contained therein, does hereby stipulate by and between the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and Ronald Beauchamp, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 321881E, of Ronald Beauchamp, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDING OF FACTS

1. Ronald Beauchamp was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 321881E, on June 4, 1993. That certificate currently remains valid.

2. Ronald Beauchamp was employed by the Vancouver Public Schools.

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RONALD BEAUCHAMP
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3. On May 3, 2012, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Vancouver Public Schools alleging a lack of good moral character or personal fitness, or a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-87, by Ronald Beauchamp.

4. In March of 2003, Ronald Beauchamp received a Letter of Reprimand from the Principal of Alki Middle School for hugging students and kissing one female student on the neck.

5. During the 2006-2007 school year, Ronald Beauchamp had inappropriate interactions and communications with students at Columbia River High School including, but not limited to: making inappropriate comments that had sexual innuendos to male and female students; giving students full frontal hugs; inviting and allowing students to sit on his lap; sitting on students; and allowing students in his classroom to engage in conversations with inappropriate comments and topics.

6. During the 2006-2007 school year, Ronald Beauchamp often allowed students from other classes to come in and remain in his class without a legitimate educational purpose.

7. On September 26, 2007, after an unknown Columbia River High School staff member reported seeing Ronald Beauchamp hugging female students. Mike Lane, Columbia River High School Principal, talked to Ronald Beauchamp about inappropriate physical contact with students. Ronald Beauchamp told Mr. Lane that he would stop hugging students.

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8. On October 16, 2007, Ronald Beauchamp participated in a meeting with Vancouver Public Schools administrators. During the meeting, Ronald Beauchamp admitted to making inappropriate comments to students, hugging students, making inappropriate personal comments to students, and allowing inappropriate conversations to occur in the classroom. Ronald Beauchamp stated that he sometimes tends to make immature and bad judgments.

9. On October 16, 2007, Ronald Beauchamp was issued a Letter of Reprimand for the interactions with students discussed in Finding of Fact #6. As part of the Letter of Reprimand, Ronald Beauchamp was ordered to cease this above-listed behavior and not to repeat the behavior in the future.

10. On an unknown date in early December 2007, Ronald Beauchamp moistened one of his fingers with his saliva and then placed his wet finger into the ear of a female student.

11. During an investigative/discipline meeting on January 7, 2008, Ronald Beauchamp, among other comments: stated that he stuck his wet finger into a female student's ear in "good clean fun and I didn't see it as an issue"; stated that he was committed to modifying his behavior and to avoid actions that "are inappropriate to teacher-student relationships and professional boundaries that define that relationship"; agreed to pursue counseling through the District EAP program; and agreed to one-on-one sessions to "discuss and review appropriate and professional boundaries between teachers and students".

12. On January 7, 2008, Ronald Beauchamp was issued a 3-day suspension without pay for placing his saliva covered finger into a student's ear.

13. Ronald Beauchamp completed Vancouver Public School's appropriate interactions with students training, What Every Employee Must Be Told, on August 26, 2008, September 2, 2009, September 10, 2010, and September 6, 2011.

14. During the 2011-2012 school year, Ronald Beauchamp, among other inappropriate interactions: encouraged students to end a relationship with other students and/or former students; participated in and/or failed to end inappropriate student conversations; made inappropriate comments to and/or about students.

15. During the first part of the 2011-2012 school year, Ronald Beauchamp provided almost daily transportation to and from school for approximately thirty (30) days for J.B., a 12th grade female student. Ronald Beauchamp did not inform administration that he was transporting a student in his personal vehicle.

16. In October 2011, Ronald Beauchamp heard rumors that J.B. was going to use alcoholic beverages and provide alcoholic beverages to other students during a weekend. Ronald Beauchamp spoke with J.B. at school and forbade her to engage in these activities. During the weekend, Ronald Beauchamp called J.B.'s husband to tell him that J.B. was using alcoholic beverages and providing alcoholic beverages to other students.

17. Ronald Beauchamp did not inform school counselors or administration that he had knowledge of students using alcohol off-campus.

18. During the school week directly proceeding this said weekend, Ronald Beauchamp told J.B. that he would no longer provide transportation for her to and from school.

19. Vancouver Public Schools' Regulation #R4384, Maintaining Employee-Student Boundaries, states that unacceptable behaviors for educators includes, but is not limited to,; singling out a particular student or students for personal attention and friendship beyond the employee-student relationship; banter, allusions, jokes or innuendos of a sexual nature with students; socializing or spending time with students outside of school of sponsored events; and giving a student a ride alone in a non-emergency situation.

20. J.B. transferred to Fort Vancouver High School on November 1, 2011.

21. In April 2012, after J.B. returned to Columbia River High School, she went to Ronald Beauchamp's classroom for a required course. After J.B. left the classroom, Ronald Beauchamp made a comment that J.B. had a sexually transmitted disease.

22. On April 25, 2012, Ronald Beauchamp was placed on administrative leave.

23. On April 20, 2012, Ronald Beauchamp signed a settlement agreement with the Vancouver Public Schools. In the settlement agreement, Ronald Beauchamp was placed on administrative leave for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year, placed on sick leave the first semester of the 2012-2013 school year and submitted his resignation, effective January 30, 2013.

24. On September 5, 2013, Ronald Beauchamp participated in an interview with an OPP investigator. On October 7, 2013, OPP received Ronald Beauchamp's signed statement.

25. Good moral character and personal fitness is a continuing requirement to maintain a Washington Education Certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Ronald Beauchamp and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate No. 321881E, of Ronald Beauchamp, should be suspended for unprofessional conduct and/or lack of good moral character or personal fitness. RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-070, WAC 181-87-060; WAC 181-86-013; WAC 181-86-014.

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ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and agreed that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 321881E, of Ronald Beauchamp, be suspended for twelve (12) months from the date of entry of this Order.

REINSTATEMENT will require: (1) successful completion of a psychological evaluation which validates Ronald Beauchamp's ability to have unsupervised access to students in a school environment, by an evaluator mutually agreed upon by the Office of Professional Practices and Ronald Beauchamp; (2) that Ronald Beauchamp provide written consent for OPP to release documents to the provider for purposes of completing the evaluation; (3) that Ronald Beauchamp follows and completes any and all treatment recommended in the evaluation; (4) that Ronald Beauchamp will provide OPP with evidence of his/her successful completion of or continued compliance in his/her treatment program and; (5) if requested, Ronald Beauchamp will sign consent forms authorizing OPP to have access to all records pertaining to his/her treatment and to discuss any and all treatment undertaken with the providers administering treatment. The cost of conformance to all reinstatement requirements will be the responsibility of Ronald Beauchamp.

AND Reinstatement shall (also) require: (1) submission of a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP and having Ronald Beauchamp's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP); and (2) that if Ronald Beauchamp's education certificate expires during the period of suspension, Ronald Beauchamp will show that he meets all academic requirements for renewal/reinstatement of the education certificate. Reinstatement shall also be contingent upon Ronald Beauchamp's fingerprint background check returning with no criminal convictions that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, any felony convictions.

DATED This 30 day of October, 2013.

RANDY I. DORN
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

By: Alan Burke
Alan Burke, Ed. D.
Deputy Superintendent
K-12 Education

Stipulated to and approved
For entry; notice of presentation
waived:

Ronald Beauchamp
Ronald Beauchamp, Respondent

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