



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. D15-07-069
)	
)	AGREED ORDER OF
Gary Hill)	SUSPENSION
Certificate No. 449404C)	
_____)	

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 Gary Hill, that the Washington Education Certificate, No.449404C, of Gary Hill, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Gary Hill was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 449404C, on December 12, 2007. That certificate currently remains valid.

2. Gary Hill is employed by the Bethel School District.

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3. On July 13, 2015, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the Executive Director of the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) alleging a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-87-050, by Gary Hill. Namely, that Gary Hill committed “test fraud” when submitting his ProTeach Portfolio, a required aspect towards obtaining a professional teacher education certificate.

4. During the 2014-2015 school year, Gary Hill worked towards completion of his ProTeach Portfolio. During the course of working towards completion of his ProTeach portfolio, Gary Hill attended a full-session ProTeach portfolio course. Gary Hill also relied on fellow educators for guidance on creating and compiling his portfolio submissions.

5. In January 2015, Gary Hill submitted his ProTeach portfolio to Educational Testing Service (ETS) for scoring and, as an automatic feature in the online submission, Mr. Hill attested that all the information contained in his ProTeach portfolio was his own work. ETS is a company contracted with Washington State Professional Educator Standard’s Board to analyze and score ProTeach portfolios. ETS assigned Gary Hill an identification number of WA37EC49ED.

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6. After electronic review of Gary Hill's ProTeach portfolio, ETS determined that there was substantial evidence of unusual similarities between his ProTeach portfolio and educator WA33C6EED7's previously submitted and scored ProTeach portfolio. These similarities, which ranged from Section 1 through Section 3, were of a significant enough nature that ETS canceled Gary Hill's ProTeach Portfolio assessment scores due to "test fraud." Educator WA33C6EED7 does not teach at the same school as Gary Hill, nor does Educator WA33C6EED7 teach the same grade.

7. On April 30, 2015, ETS notified Gary Hill that his January 2015 ProTeach portfolio score was being voided.

8. On September 3, 2015, Gary Hill participated in an interview with an OPP investigator. During his interview, Gary Hill, amongst other statements, admitted that he deliberately plagiarized Educator WA33C6EED7's ProTeach portfolio and misrepresented WA33C6EED7's ProTeach portfolio as his own original work in order to obtain his professional teaching certificate. Gary Hill admitted that he did this unbeknownst to Educator WA33C6EED7.

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

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Gary Hill and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate No. 449404C, of Gary Hill, should be suspended for unprofessional conduct. RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-070, WAC 181-87-050.

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ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and agreed that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 449404C, of Gary Hill, be suspended for 30 days from the date of entry of this Order.

Reinstatement shall (also) require: (1) submission of a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP and having Gary Hill's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP); and (2) that if Gary Hill's education certificate expires during the period of suspension, Gary Hill will show that he meets all academic requirements for renewal/reinstatement of the education certificate. Reinstatement shall also be contingent upon Gary Hill'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 4th day of December, 2015.

RANDY I. DORN
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

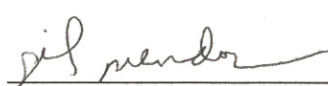
Stipulated to and approved
For entry:



Gary Hill, Respondent

 #2211R

Michael Gawley, Attorney for Respondent



Gil Mendoza, Ed. D.
Deputy Superintendent
K-12 Education

Gary Hill
AGREED ORDER OF SUSPENSION