



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)
APPLICATION OF)
LANCE BEESON)
DOB: [REDACTED] 1969)

OPP No. A09-05-050
DENIAL ORDER
FOR CERTIFICATION

COMES NOW the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), 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 deny the education application of LANCE BEESON based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Lance Beeson applied for a Washington education certificate on June 24, 2008. A second permit was issued on November 17, 2008 and that permit remains valid through June 30, 2009.
2. Lance Beeson was employed by the Columbia School District.
3. On January 28, 2009, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the Superintendent of the Columbia School District 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 Lance Beeson.

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4. During the 2008-2009 school year, during classroom instructional time, Lance Beeson used Columbia School District computer equipment to electronically exchange sexually explicit language, including references about students and district staff, to multiple persons outside the school district.
5. On November 25, 2008, Lance Beeson was placed on administrative leave.
6. During the 2008-2009 school year, John Young, Investigator with United Schools Insurance Program, Canfield & Assoc., conducted an investigation at the request of the Columbia School District.
7. On December 18, 2008, Lance Beeson was issued a letter by Dr. Lou Gates, Superintendent of the Columbia School District, advising of Dr. Gates' "decision to immediately remove you from your teaching assignment" and "I will recommend that the Board of Directors of Columbia School District remove you from consideration of teaching and coaching contracts for the 2009-2010 school year".
8. On January 12, 2009, Mr. Beeson signed a Separation Agreement with the Columbia School District. Mr. Beeson resigned his employment with the Columbia School District, effective January 31, 2009.
9. Good moral character and personal fitness is a requirement to attain a Washington education certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Lance Beeson and over the subject matter of this action.

2. Lance Beeson has failed to provide clear and convincing evidence of good moral character or personal fitness to receive a Washington education certificate, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-86-170.

3. Lance Beeson has violated WAC 181-87-060, 181-87-013 and 181-87-014.

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ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the application for certification of Lance Beeson is denied.

This order may be appealed within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt, pursuant to Chapter 181-86 WAC, copy enclosed.


This order will become final thirty days after it is received, unless it is appealed within the thirty day period.

Appeals should be addressed to:

Superintendent of Public Instruction
Office of Professional Practices
PO Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504

DATED this 8th day of June, 2009.

RANDY I. DORN
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington


Martin T. Mueller
Assistant Superintendent
Student Support