



# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DR. TERRY BERGESON 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. D05-02-012
	)	
Wayne Christopherson	)	ORDER OF PERMANENT
Certificate No. 221750C	)	REVOCATION
	)	

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 permanently revoke the Washington Education Certificate, No. 221750C, of Wayne Christopherson, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Wayne Christopherson was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 221750C, on June 10, 1977. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Wayne Christopherson is employed by the Edmonds School District.
3. On February 8, 2005, the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Edmonds 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) 180-87, by Wayne Christopherson. The complaint letter stated that Mr. Christopherson had previously been convicted of public indecency and being in a park area off limits.

4. On March 16, 2005, the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Edmonds 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) 180-87, by Wayne Christopherson. The complaint letter stated that the Edmonds School District had knowledge that Mr. Christopherson used sick leave to perform community service and that pornography had been found on his classroom computer.

5. On March 28, 2005, the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Edmonds 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) 180-87, by Wayne Christopherson. The complaint letter stated that Mr. Christopherson was under investigation by the Mountlake Terrace Police Department for alleged inappropriate touching of students in his classroom.

6. On October 15, 2001, Mr. Christopherson was arrested by Lynnwood Police Department for Public Indecency (Lynnwood Municipal Code 10.04.740) and In Parks Off Limits Areas (Lynnwood Municipal Code 10.16.035).

7. On November 1, 2001, Mr. Christopherson was found guilty of the charges of Public Indecency and In Park Off Limits Area. Mr. Christopherson was sentenced to 90 days jail time, with 80 days suspended, and a \$1000 fine, with \$500 suspended for the Public Indecency conviction. Mr. Christopherson was sentenced to 90 days of jail time, with 90 days suspended, and a \$1000 fine, with \$500 suspended, for the in Parks Area Off Limits conviction. Mr. Christopherson also received a twenty-four month probation.

8. Mr. Christopherson completed 10 days of community service, in lieu of jail time, in November and December of 2001. Mr. Christopherson used sick leave from his position with the Edmonds School District for six of the 10 days of community service.

9. On January 20, 2005, Mr. Christopherson was placed on administrative leave, pending investigation into allegations of improper touching of students.

10. On March 24, 2005, Mr. Christopherson entered into a settlement agreement with the Edmonds School District. As part of the settlement agreement, Mr. Christopherson shall resign his employment with the Edmonds School District effective August 31, 2005.

11. On May 5, 2005, Mr. Christopherson was charged in Snohomish County Superior Court with one count of Child Molestation in the First Degree, RCW 9A.44.083, and one count of Possession of Depictions of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct, RCW 9.68A.070.

12. On July 1, 2005, Mr. Christopherson pleaded guilty in Snohomish County Superior Court to one count of Child Molestation in the First Degree and one count of Possession of Depictions of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct.

13. Wayne Christopherson has pleaded guilty or been convicted of a crime identified in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 28A.410.090(3). Such a plea or conviction authorizes OSPI to permanently revoke the Education Certificate.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Wayne Christopherson and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 221750C, of Wayne Christopherson, should be revoked, as provided for in WAC 180-86-075.

3. Wayne Christopherson has violated WAC 180-87, WAC 180-86-013, WAC 180-86-014, and/or RCW 28A.410.090.

**ORDER**

Therefore, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 221750C, of Wayne Christopherson be permanently revoked.

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

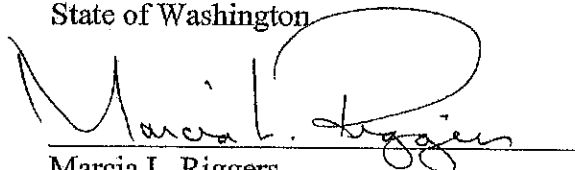
Office of Professional Practices

PO Box 47200

Olympia, WA 98504

DATED This 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2005.

DR. TERRY BERGESON  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Washington



Marcia L. Riggers  
Assistant Superintendent  
Student Support and Operations