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# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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**DR. TERRY BERGESON** OLD CAPITOL BUILDING • PO BOX 47200 • OLYMPIA WA 98504-7200 • <http://www.k12.wa.us>

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION )	
CERTIFICATE OF )	OPP No. D07-02-023
David Farris )	
Certificate No. 385889A )	FINAL ORDER
_____ )	OF 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 revoke the Washington Education Certificate, No. 385889A, of David Farris, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. David Farris was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 385889A, on April 6, 2001. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. On February 22, 2007, the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), within OSPI, received information through the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) database, that the state of Oregon had taken action against Mr. Farris's Idaho Teaching Certificate.

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4. On December 3, 2005, the Ontario, Oregon School District reported to the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) allegations that Mr. Farris engaged in conduct that was unprofessional and violated District policy as well as the rules of the profession.

5. During the 2003-2004 school year, while employed by the Ontario, Oregon School District, Mr. Farris: had middle school age male students sit on his lap; massaged male student's shoulders and heads; hugged male students from the front and from behind; engaged in telling and listening to inappropriate, sexual jokes with male students; made inappropriate, sexual comments to male students; made a comment to a 6<sup>th</sup> grade male student referring to the size of Mr. Farris' penis.

6. During TSPC's investigation, Mr. Farris: said that the only thing he did wrong was to get involved with his students; described himself more than a teacher, he is a confidant, advisor, friend, and so much more; admitted to hugging students and explained that the majority of his students come from broken homes and often the only reinforcement they get is from the teachers who care about them; that he has allowed students to sit on his knee; admitted that he touches students but denied giving massages; and admitted that he made a comment to a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student referring to the size of his penis.

7. Mr. Farris was dismissed from his employment with the Ontario, Oregon School District effective January 5, 2005.

8. Dr. Dwight Mowry, a clinical psychologist in Ontario, Oregon, was provided copies of all investigative notes and interviews, obtained by the Ontario School District, by the Ontario School District and asked to assess the case. Dr. Mowry's assessment, in substance, states that many of the actions demonstrated by Mr. Farris are consistent with those associated with pedophiles. Dr. Mowry recommended that Mr. Farris submit to a complete sex offender evaluation.

9. On May 22, 2006, TSPC issued a Stipulation of Facts, Surrender, and Order of Revocation for Mr. Farris' Oregon Teaching License. By entering into this stipulation, Mr. Farris understood that TSPC would accept the surrender of his license and revoke his license.

10. On January 16, 2007, the state of Idaho Professional Standards Commission denied Mr. Farris' application for renewal of his Idaho teaching certificate.

11. Mr. Farris has not provided to OPP a response to allegations of misconduct.

12. 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 David Farris and over the subject matter of this action.
  
2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 385889A, of David Farris, should be revoked as provided for in WAC 181-86-075.
  
3. David Farris has violated WAC 181-87-060, WAC 181-87-080, RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-013, and/or WAC 180-86-014.

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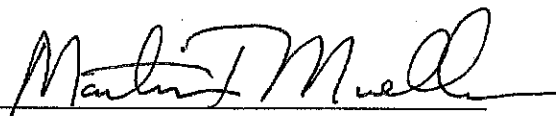
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ORDER

It has been thirty days since the Proposed Order of Revocation was received. The appeal time period has passed. It is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 385889A, of David Farris is Revoked.

DATED This 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2007.

DR. TERRY BERGESON  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Washington



Martin T. Mueller  
Assistant Superintendent  
Student Support and Operations