



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. D08-07-053
)	
NEIL ABRAHAMS)	FINAL ORDER
Certificate No. 365180R)	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. 365180R, of Neil Abrahams, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Neil Abrahams was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 365180R, on October 14, 1998. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Neil Abrahams was employed as a substitute teacher in the Portland, Reynolds, Multnomah/Fairview and North Clackamas School Districts within Oregon State.
3. On July 7, 2008, the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), within OSPI, received information through the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and

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Certification (NASDTEC) database, that the state of Oregon had taken action against Neil Abrahams, Oregon Teaching Certificate.

4. On January 4, 2006, the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission received information from the Inspector General's Office of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice concerning materials which Neil Abrahams sent to an inmate within their prison system.

5. On September 13, 2006, Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission conducted an interview with Neil Abrahams. During the interview Neil Abrahams admitted that he had fallen in love with a male student during a prior teaching assignment and that he remained in the teaching profession due in part to his attraction to children. The Commission found that Abrahams failed to appreciate the potential professional problems raised by mailing materials from the "North American Man-Boy Love Association" to an inmate in the Texas Correctional System.

6. On August 6, 2007, a Final Order of Surrender, and Order of Revocation for the teaching certificate of Neil Martin Abrahams was entered by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, for the State of Oregon.

7. On October 13, 2008, the State Board for Educator Certification for the State of Texas entered an Order of Surrender of Texas Educator Certificate, for Neil Martin Abrahams. The order stated that Neil Martin Abrahams engaged in communication with inmates at various correctional facilities who are imprisoned for crimes against children. As part of the

correspondence with inmates, Abrahams also provided photographs of young children, including children's clothing catalogues and information on the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA).

8. On October 21, 2008, OPP received a signed response from Neil Martin Abrahams regarding Oregon TSPC's action. In the response Neil Abrahams describes his love and feelings in 1994 for a student in his class; defines his attraction toward children; addresses his membership in the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA); his attraction to the beauty of some boys and his affection for boys in general, and his pen-pal relationship with a NAMBLA inmate in Texas.

9. On November 3, 2008, an investigator from OPP went to the national website of the North American Man/Boy Love Association. Under the section listed as "Who We Are" the site listed NAMBLA's goals. The site also contained a FAQ section, which addressed some of the organizations philosophies.

10. 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 Neil Abrahams and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 365180R, of Neil Abrahams, should be revoked as provided for in WAC 181-86-075.

3. Neil Abrahams has violated RCW 28A.410.090; WAC 181-86-013, and/or WAC 180-86-014.

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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. 365180R, of Neil Abrahams is revoked.

DATED This 18th day of December, 2008.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington



Martin T. Mueller
Assistant Superintendent
Student Support