

I, Maggie Pazar certify that on December 3, 2008, I mailed a copy of this document, certified & postage prepaid, to all parties or their counsel of record. I certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the state of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION)
CERTIFICATE OF)
DANIEL RIDENOUR)
Certificates No. 420413G)
_____)

OPP No. D07-05-056

FINAL ORDER OF
REVOCATION

COMES NOW Gene Sharratt, Review Officer of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), having reviewed the files of the above-referenced case, and having considered the arguments of each party and the recommendation of the Admissions and Professional Conduct Advisory Committee, does hereby order that the Washington Education Certificates, No. 420413G, of Daniel Ridenour be revoked based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Daniel Ridenour was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 420413G, on June 16, 2004. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Daniel Ridenour was employed by the Steilacoom Historical School District.
3. On May 25, 2007, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the Superintendent of the Steilacoom Historical 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 Daniel Ridenour.
4. Between approximately 1997 and 1999, R.V., a 15-16 year old male, resided with Daniel Ridenour and his family in Portland, Oregon.

5. Between approximately 1997 and 1999, Daniel Ridenour touched R.V. inappropriately and made inappropriate comments to him.
6. Between 1997 and 1999, Daniel Ridenour and **Kat Hughes** (formerly **Kat Ridenour**), Daniel Ridenour's then wife, provided child care for C.S., a 10 year old male.
7. In or about April of 1998, Daniel Ridenour took C.S. to places around Portland, Oregon and touched him inappropriately and made inappropriate comments to him.
8. On April 13, 1998, Daniel Ridenour sent an e-mail to persons discussing C.S. and Daniel Ridenour taking C.S. to places around Portland, Oregon.
9. **Kat Hughes** states that between 1990 and 2003, she and Daniel Ridenour discussed his feelings and interactions with R.V., C.S., other males and other topics.
10. From 1998-1999, Daniel Ridenour sent R.V. e-mails in which Daniel Ridenour discusses his relationships with R.V., C.S., **Kat Hughes**, and other topics and issues.
11. Between 1998 and 1999, Daniel Ridenour sent e-mails to Father George Gray regarding R.V., C.S., **Kat Hughes**, and other topics and issues.
12. Father Gray states that between 1998 and 1999, he and Daniel Ridenour had discussions regarding R.V., C.S., **Kat Hughes**, and other topics and issues.
13. In 1999, Daniel Ridenour sent e-mails to his mother, Sherry **Gallagher**, discussing R.V., C.S., **Kat Hughes**, and other topics and issues.
14. Between 1998 and 2001, Daniel Ridenour sent e-mails to Marcus Willis regarding R.V., C.S., **Kat Hughes**, and other topics and issues.
15. Marcus Willis states that between 1998 and 2001, he and Daniel Ridenour had discussions regarding R.V., C.S., **Kat Hughes**, and other topics and issues.

16. Daniel Wiktorek states that between 2000 and 2001, he and Daniel Ridenour had discussions regarding R.V., C.S. Kat Hughes, and other topics and issues.
17. Between 2000 and 2001, Daniel Ridenour sent e-mails to Daniel Wiktorek regarding R.V., C.S. Kat Hughes, and other topics and issues.
18. Between 1997 and 1999, Daniel Ridenour wrote letters to C.S. and his father, Michael Swartz, discussing his interactions and feelings towards C.S. Daniel Ridenour did not send or give the letters to C.S. or Michael Swartz.
19. On May 18, 2007, Daniel Ridenour was placed on administrative leave by the Steilacoom Historical School District.
20. On May 23, 2007, Daniel Ridenour was advised that his one-year, non-continuing contract with the Steilacoom Historical School District expired on June 22, 2007 and that day would be his last official day of employment with the District.
21. On March 13, 2008, Sherry Gallagher, Daniel Ridenour's mother, participated in an interview with an OPP investigator.
22. On June 23, 2008, Daniel Ridenour participated in an interview with an OPP investigator.
23. Good moral character and personal fitness is a continuing requirement to maintain a Washington Education Certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Daniel Ridenour and over the subject matter of this action.
2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that Washington Education Certificates, No. 420413G, of Daniel Ridenour, should be revoked as provided for in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-86-075.

3. Daniel Ridenour has violated RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-013, and/or WAC 181-86-014.

ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificates, No. 420413G, of Daniel Ridenour, be revoked.

This Order will become final thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt of this order unless respondent files an appeal for a formal hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings. Please direct the appeal and request for formal hearing to Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Administrative Law Office, Old Capitol Building, P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200.

DATED this 3rd day of December, 2008.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington



DR. GENE SHARRATT
Review Officer