



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. D04-07-061
)	
)	AGREED ORDER
Sharon Acuff)	OF SUSPENSION
Certificate No. 199459R)	
)	

COMES NOW the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 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 stipulate by and between the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and Sharon Acuff, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 199459R, of Sharon Acuff, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDING OF FACTS

1. Sharon Acuff was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 199459R, on August 17, 1973. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Sharon Acuff is employed by the Stanwood-Camano School District.
3. On July 2, 2004, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the Superintendent of the Stanwood-Camano School District alleging a lack of good

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moral character or personal fitness, or a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 180-87, by Sharon Acuff.

4. From 1999 to 2004, Sharon Acuff removed items from other teacher's classrooms, without seeking or receiving permission, and failed to return the items. The items included but were not limited to: school reading books, textbooks, and office supplies. The items belonged to the individual teachers, personally, and to the Stanwood-Camano School District. A total monetary amount of the items personally owned by teachers and removed from their classrooms and located in Sharon Acuff's classroom, was \$659.17.

5. During the 2003-2004 school year, Sharon Acuff put super glue into the locking mechanism of another classroom's door. The lock was permanently damaged.

6. On May 21, 2004, Sharon Acuff was placed on administrative leave.

7. On June 28, 2004, Sharon Acuff signed a Settlement Agreement with the Stanwood-Camano School District placing her on health-related leave for the 2004-2005 school year.

8. On June 28, 2004, Sharon Acuff submitted a letter of resignation from the Stanwood-Camano School District, with an effective date of June 16, 2005.

9. Sharon Acuff states that she has sought and is receiving psychological counseling.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Sharon Acuff and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that Washington Education Certificate, No. 199459R, of Sharon Acuff, should be suspended as provided for in WAC 180-86-070.

3. Sharon Acuff has violated WAC 180-870-060.

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ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and agreed that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 199459R, of Sharon Acuff, be suspended for twelve (12) months from the date of entry of this Order.

Reinstatement shall require adherence to the following stipulations:

(1) successful completion of a psychological evaluation which validates Sharon Acuff's ability to have unsupervised access to children, by an evaluator mutually agreed upon by the Office of Professional Practices (OPP) and Sharon Acuff; (2) that Sharon Acuff follows and complete any and all treatment recommended in the evaluation; (3) that Sharon Acuff provides a release authorizing OPP to have access to records of any and all evaluation and any and all subsequent treatment undertaken; (4) that the cost of conformance to all reinstatement requirements will be the responsibility of Sharon Acuff; (5) and submission of a new application, provided by OPP and having Sharon Acuff's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP).

DATED This 23rd day of August, 2004.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

Stipulated to and approved
For entry; notice of presentation
waived:

Sharon M Acuff
Sharon Acuff, Respondent

By: Marcia L. Riggers
Marcia L. Riggers
Assistant Superintendent
Student Support and Operations

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