



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)
)
)
STEPHEN L. CRUTCHER)
Certificate No. 314562J)
_____)

OPP No. D02-01-010

FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION

Thirty calendar days have transpired since the mailing to Stephen L. Crutcher of a Proposed Order of Suspension. Stephen L. Crutcher's failure to make a timely appeal of such order authorizes this agency to issue a Final Order of Suspension based on the Findings of Fact and the Conclusions of Law set forth in the Proposed Order of Suspension.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Stephen L. Crutcher was issued a Washington education certificate, No. 314562J, on June 22, 1992. Stephen L. Crutcher currently holds a valid Continuing ESA Certificate.
2. Stephen L. Crutcher was employed by the Eastmont School District during the 2001/2002 school year.
3. On or about January 11, 2002 the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the Superintendent of the Eastmont School District alleging unprofessional conduct, by Stephen L. Crutcher.

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4. On or about November 26, 2001, Eastmont School District administrators received information that a female, fifth grade, elementary school student had entered Stephen L. Crutcher's elementary school office and observed an inappropriate image on Stephen L. Crutcher's office computer screen. Stephen L. Crutcher was present in his office at the time.

5. Stephen L. Crutcher used an Eastmont School District provided computer located in his office, to access sexually explicit Internet sites. Stephen L. Crutcher accessed the Internet sites during designated elementary school instructional periods.

6. On or about December 3, 2001, Stephen L. Crutcher entered into a Resignation Agreement with the Eastmont School District and submitted his final and irrevocable resignation effective December 7, 2001.

7. Investigation by the Office of Professional Practices reveals that on or about April 3, 2002, Stephen L. Crutcher completed an Application for Certificated Employment with the Snoqualmie Valley School District. The application was received by the Snoqualmie Valley School District on or about April 15, 2002. Stephen L. Crutcher falsified, misrepresented and/or omitted a material fact on the employment application.

8. Good moral character and personal fitness is a continuing requirement to maintain a Washington education certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Stephen L. Crutcher and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington education certificate, No. 314562J, of Stephen L. Crutcher, should be suspended as provided for in WAC 180-86-070.

3. Stephen L. Crutcher has violated WAC 180-86, WAC 180-87, and RCW 28A.410.090.

ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington education certificate, No. 314562J, of Stephen L. Crutcher, be suspended for a minimum of 24 months.

Reinstatement shall require submission of a new application, provided by OPP and having Stephen L. Crutcher's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP).

DATED This 28th day of August, 2002.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

By: 

Thomas J. Kelly
Chief Operations Officer