



# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

RANDY I. DORN OLD CAPITOL BUILDING • PO BOX 47200 • OLYMPIA WA 98504-7200 • <http://www.k12.wa.us>

IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION )  
CERTIFICATE OF )  
Donna Granholm )  
Certificate No. 155163R )

OPP No. D08-10-077  
AGREED ORDER  
OF SUSPENSION

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 Donna Granholm, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 155163R, of Donna Granholm, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

### FINDING OF FACTS

1. Donna Granholm was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 155163R, on February 7, 1968. That certificate currently remains valid.

2. Donna Granholm is employed by the Wapato School District.

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DONNA GRANHOLM  
AGREED ORDER OF SUSPENSION



3. On October 31, 2008, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Wapato 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 Donna Granholm.

4. Wapato School District Policy #5201, Drug-Free Schools, Community and Workplace, states: "For these purposes, the board declares that following behaviors will not be tolerated: (A) Reporting to work under the influence of alcohol, illegal chemical substances or opiates;"

5. On April 15, 2008, Donna Granholm was administered a test of her breath to determine alcohol content on a portable breath test instrument (PBT) by Officer J. Murphy, Wapato Police Department, at the request of Wapato School District administration. Donna Granholm commented that she had drunk intoxicating liquor the previous night between 2:00 AM and 3:00 AM in order to sleep.

6. On April 15, 2008, Ric Pilgrim, Principal of Satus Elementary School, sent a memorandum to Dr. Charles Wheaton, Executive Director of Support Operations for Wapato School District, "recommending that, based upon recent circumstances involving the evidence of alcohol on Donna Granholm's breath, Ms. Granholm be placed on non-disciplinary paid administrative leave through Friday, April 18, 2008."

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7. On April 16, 2008, Donna Granholm was issued a letter re: Administrative Leave by Dr. Charles Wheaton. The letter states: "The administrative leave itself is not a form of discipline, but rather an opportunity to give you time to seek professional help. This leave shall be from Tuesday, April 15, 2008 through and including Friday, April 18, 2008. During this administrative leave I expect that you will seek professional help and develop a plan for making use of the assistance." The letter also states: "It is expected that by Friday, April 18, 2008, you will communicate with Mr. Pilgrim and me regarding your plans for assistance. We would expect that you submit written documentation from the professional service provider regarding the recommended plan of assistance."

8. Donna Granholm states that she entered into an out-patient program at SunDown in Yakima, WA. in April 2008. Donna Granholm states that she participated in this program until July 2008 when she quit the program.

9. Donna Granholm did not provide Wapato School District with documentation from a treatment provider for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year. Donna Granholm states that she had signed consent to release forms at Merit and SunDown.

10. On October 13, 2008, Donna Granholm met with Dr. Charles Wheaton and Ric Pilgrim regarding her progress on exploring options regarding her plans to get assistance for alcohol dependence.

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11. On October 21, 2008, Donna Granholm was administered a test of her breath to determine alcohol content on a portable breath test instrument (PBT) by Officer J. Murphy, Wapato Police Department, at the request of Wapato School District administration. The breath test returned with a positive test for the presence of intoxicating liquor.

12. On October 27, 2008, Donna Granholm was issued a Letter of Reprimand by Dr. Charles Wheaton for being under the influence of intoxicating liquor at school.

13. Donna Granholm was in a detox center from November 8, 2008 to November 13, 2008. On November 13, 2008, Donna Granholm entered a 28-day Intensive Inpatient Alcoholism and Chemical Dependency Treatment program at Sundown M Ranch in Selah, Washington. She completed the inpatient treatment on December 11, 2008.

14. Donna Granholm was admitted to Level 1 Ongoing Care at MERIT Resource Services office in Yakima for outpatient treatment services on January 2, 2009.

15. Donna Granholm returned to work on January 6, 2009.

16. On April 22, 2009, Donna Granholm participated in an interview with an OPP investigator.

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17. On June 15, 2009, an Agreed Order of Suspension was finalized. Part of the stipulations for reinstatement were that Donna Granholm was the successfully completion of an outpatient treatment program through Merit Resources Aftercare by August 14, 2009. The stipulations for reinstatement also stated that if Donna Granholm failed to successfully complete the out-patient program at Merit Resources, she agreed to a twenty-four (24) month suspension of her education certificate.

18. Donna Granholm missed group sessions during the week ending July 17, 2009 for Merit Resources. Donna Granholm had a positive test for the presence of alcohol at Merit Resources on July 23, 2009.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Donna Granholm and over the subject matter of this action.
2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 155163R, of Donna Granholm, should be suspended as provided for in WAC 181-86-070.
3. Donna Granholm has violated WAC 181-87-055, RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-013, and/or WAC 181-86-014.

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OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES

ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 155163R, of Donna Granholm be suspended for twenty-four (24) months.

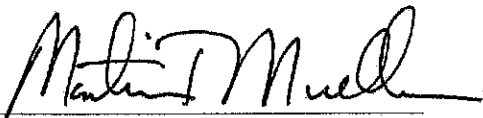
**Reinstatement** shall require: 1) successful completion of an alcohol and/or substance abuse treatment program; 2) Donna Granholm must provide OPP with evidence of her successful completion of her treatment program; 3) Donna Granholm will have a alcohol and drug evaluation by an evaluator, mutually agreed upon with OPP, which establishes her ability to remain drug and alcohol free, and will follow any recommendations and all treatment recommended in the evaluation; and 4) Donna Granholm will sign consent forms authorizing OPP to have access to all records pertaining to her treatment and to discuss any and all treatment undertaken with the providers administering treatment. The cost of conformance to all reinstatement requirements will be the responsibility of Donna Granholm.

**AND** Reinstatement shall (also) require submission of a new application, provided by OPP and having Donna Granholm's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP). Reinstatement shall be also contingent upon Donna Granholm's fingerprint background check returning with no: criminal convictions that are listed in WAC 181-86-013; RCW 28A.410.090; any felony convictions; and/or misdemeanor convictions that involve the use and/or possession of intoxicating beverages and/or controlled substances.

DATED This 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009.

RANDY I. DORN  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Washington

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

  
Martin Mueller  
Assistant Superintendent  
Student Support

  
Donna Granholm, Respondent