



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DR. TERRY BERGESON OLD CAPITOL BUILDING • PO BOX 47200 • OLYMPIA WA 98504-7200 • <http://www.k12.wa.us>

I, Mary Myrdal, certify that on 5/6/05, 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)
)
CYNTHIA S. LARSON)
Certificate No. 220246D)
)
)

OPP No. D00-02-025

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 suspend the Washington education certificate, No. 220246D, of Cynthia S. Larson for a minimum of thirty-six (36) months, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Cynthia S. Larson was issued a Washington teacher certificate on August 18, 1978. She was also issued a continuing administrator's certificate on March 21, 1989. Those certificates currently remain valid.

2. On February 9, 2000, the Office of Professional Practices, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, received a letter from the Superintendent of Battle Ground Public Schools, alleging that Cynthia S. Larson may have exhibited unprofessional conduct.

3. According to information presented by the Battle Ground Public School Superintendent, Cynthia Larson appeared at a school meeting on January 21, 2000, showing signs of being under the influence of alcohol.

A urinalysis (UA) test done later that same day showed that Cynthia Larson was under the influence of alcohol.

4. Cynthia Larson entered an alcohol treatment program on Monday, January 24, 2000.

5. Cynthia Larson has entered into an agreement with the Battle Ground Public Schools, stipulating that she will:

- a. continue attendance in Alcoholics Anonymous for six (6) months;
- b. submit a letter from her treatment provider attesting to her ability to return to her professional duties; and
- c. undergo random UAs for a period of five (5) years.

6. It was also agreed between Cynthia Larson and Battle Ground Public Schools that her failure to successfully meet the agreed-upon stipulations would result in her dismissal.

7. On May 16, 2002, the Battle Ground Public Schools reported that Cynthia Larson violated her "one chance agreement" with the Battle Ground Public Schools by testing positive for alcohol at school.

8. On May 14, 2002, at approximately 10:00am, Cynthia Larson was requested by the Battle Ground Public Schools to undergo a test for possibly being under the influence of alcohol at school.

9. On May 14, 2002, at approximately 1:10pm, Sgt. Mullen, Battle Ground Police Department, administered a portable breath test on Cynthia Larson. The first test indicated a .085 blood alcohol content (BAC). The second test, approximately 15 minutes later, indicated a .075 BAC.

10. Cynthia Larson submitted her resignation to the Battle Ground Public Schools on May 16, 2002.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has jurisdiction over Cynthia S. Larson and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that Cynthia S. Larson's education certificate should be suspended as provided for in WAC 180-86-070.

3. Cynthia S. Larson has violated WAC 180-87, the Agreed Order of Stayed Suspension dated April 13, 2002, and the agreement with Battle Ground Public Schools.

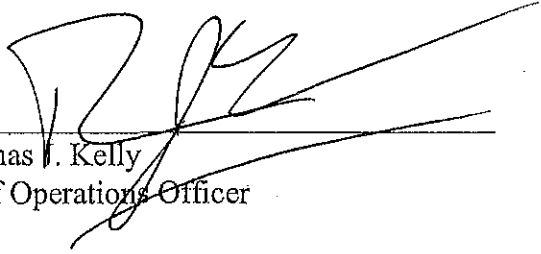
ORDER

It is hereby ordered and agreed, that the Washington education certificate of Cynthia S. Larson be suspended for a minimum of thirty-six (36) months.

Reinstatement shall require submission of a new application, provided by the Office of Professional Practices and having Cynthia L. Larson's fingerprints checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP).

DATED This 5th day of June, 2002.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

By: 
Thomas V. Kelly
Chief Operations Officer