



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)
STEVEN E. ALTMAYER)
CERTIFICATE NO. 228980R)

OPP No. D04-07-077

FINAL ORDER OF
SUSPENSION

COMES NOW the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), 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. 228980R, of Steven Altmeyer, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Steven E. Altmeyer was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 228980R, on August 17, 1982. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Steven E. Altmeyer was employed by the Valley Christian School.
3. On July 23, 2004, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the administrator of the Valley Christian School 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 Steven E. Altmeyer.
4. During the 1999-2000 school year, Mr. Altmeyer verbally abused S.G., a 13-year old male student, saying that he was "not in God's favor for failure to over come his obesity and was, in fact, committing a sin towards God". Mr. Altmeyer also referred to S.G. as "fatty", "tubby", and other such nicknames. Often times, S.G. left the classroom in tears because Mr. Altmeyer called him names.



5. In the winter of 2000, Mr. Altmeyer shoved and punched student J.E., a high school age student, with the butt of his hands on each side of J.E.'s chest.
6. During the 2001-2002 school year, after a Valley Christian School boys' basketball game, Mr. Altmeyer struck J.K., a high school age student, in the chest. The strike left a bruise and J.K. had difficulty breathing during strenuous activity for about 10 days afterwards.
7. During the 2003-2004 school year, during a Valley Christian School boys' basketball practice, Mr. Altmeyer intentionally struck J.M., a high school age male student, in the genitals for not properly completing a maneuver in practice.
8. During the 2003-2004 school year, during a Valley Christian School boys' basketball practice, Mr. Altmeyer instructed C.A., a high school age male student to place his hand on top of a metal garbage can lid. Mr. Altmeyer struck the top of C.A.'s hand with a closed fist.
9. After a basketball game, during the summer of 2004, Mr. Altmeyer told members of the Valley Christian School boys' basketball team that they were to play for his pain and anger for being terminated from Davenport. Mr. Altmeyer had the team line up and run a maneuver called a "gauntlet". The team members formed two parallel lines and as a player went through the middle of the lines, each team member struck the player as they went past. Mr. Altmeyer instructed the team members to hit each other.
10. In 2004, during a Valley Christian School boys' basketball game, Mr. Altmeyer pushed and shoved J.D., an eleventh grade student, backward. Richard Dahm, J.D.'s father, later withdrew J.D. from Valley Christian School alleging physical and mental abuse by Mr. Altmeyer towards J.D.
11. During his employment with the Valley Christian School, Mr. Altmeyer had numerous other incidents of inappropriate verbal and physical treatment of students.

12. On May 25, 2004, Mr. Altmeyer submitted a letter to the Spokane Valley Christian School withdrawing his intent to return for the 2004-2005 school year.
13. Good moral character and personal fitness is a continuing requirement to maintain a Washington Education Certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Steven E. Altmeyer and over the subject matter of this action.
2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 228980R, of Steven E. Altmeyer, should be suspended as provided for in WAC 181-86-040.
3. Steven E. Altmeyer has violated WAC 181-87-060, RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-013, WAC 181-86-014, and/or WAC 392-400-235.

ORDER

It is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 228980R, of Steven Altmeyer is Suspended for thirty (30) months from the date of this order.

Reinstatement shall require adherence to the following stipulations: (1) successful completion of a psychological evaluation which validates Steven Altmeyer's ability to have unsupervised access to children, by an evaluator mutually agreed upon by the Office of Professional Practices (OPP) and Steven Altmeyer; (2) that Steven Altmeyer follows and completes any and all treatment recommended in the evaluation; (3) that Steven Altmeyer provides a release authorizing OPP to have access to records of any and all evaluation and any and all subsequent treatment undertaken; (4) successful completion of boundary issue training;

(5) that the cost of conformance to all reinstatement requirements will be the responsibility of Steven Altmeyer; (6) and submission of a new application, provided by OPP, and having Steven Altmeyer's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP).

DATED This 5TH day of March, 2008.



Martin T. Mueller
Assistant Superintendent
Student Support