



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)
)
 HEIDI WARD)
 Certificate No. 420875G)
 _____)

OPP No. D08-07-049 **RECEIVED**
 AGREED ORDER **OCT 24 2008**
 OF SUSPENSION **OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES**

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 Heidi Ward, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 420875G, of Heidi Ward, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDING OF FACTS

1. Heidi Ward was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 420875G, on September 29, 2004. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Heidi Ward was employed by the Kalama School District.

HEIDI WARD
 AGREED ORDER OF SUSPENSION



3. On June 30, 2008, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Kalama 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 Heidi Ward.

4. On November 15, 2007, Principal Mike Hamilton, Vice Principal Nate Salisbury and Jeanne Klahn, met with Heidi Ward and KEA representative Lori Byrnes. The purpose of the meeting was to advise Heidi Ward of the District's policy that she was not to have students at her home without prior administrative approval, and to address the drama party she had at her house on Friday, November 9, 2007, without prior approval for a school related activity.

5. On November 16, 2007, Heidi Ward submitted a letter of notification that she was leaving her position of Drama Club Advisor effective December 14, 2007, and also resigning her position/employment as an English teacher with the District on June 18, 2008.

6. On November 19, 2007, Principal Mike Hamilton, Vice Principal Nate Salisbury and Jeanne Klahn, met with Heidi Ward and KEA representative Lori Byrnes. The purpose of the meeting was to talk with Heidi Ward about making statements to students in her classroom that she was being "picked on" or "run out" by administration.

7. On December 21, 2007, Heidi Ward had four high school students at her home without prior approval from the administration.

8. On January 9, 2008, Heidi Ward was issued a Letter of Reprimand from Principal, Mike Hamilton for violating the directive of November 16, 2007 by entertaining four students at her home without prior approval, and continued failure to maintain appropriate professional boundaries between herself and students.

9. On March 12, 2008, Heidi Ward was issued a Letter of Reprimand from Principal, Mike Hamilton.

10. On June 14, 2008, Heidi Ward attended a graduation party at the home of one of her students, A.A. During that party Heidi Ward drank alcohol.

11. On June 14, 2008, Heidi Ward left the graduation party at the [REDACTED] residence and returned to her residence with current and past students. Heidi Ward left the students at her residence and went to the Safeway store to purchase an 18 pack of beer. When Heidi Ward returned to her residence there was a large group of past and present students at her house, consuming alcohol. Several students that had been drinking and did not have rides stayed the night at her residence. At no time did Heidi Ward attempt to call any of the students parents.

12. On June 16, 2008, Heidi Ward was issued a Letter of Reprimand from Principal, Mike Hamilton for an incident that occurred on June 6, 2008, when three students in Heidi Ward's classroom threw a student desk out the second story classroom window, during her 6th period class.

13. On June 23, 2008, Longview Police Department Detectives, Langlois and Taylor contacted Heidi Ward at her residence, to talk about the party of June 14, 2008. At first Ward stated it was just a rumor and had no idea how it had started. She later admitted to the officers that there had in fact been a party at her house that night and that she had purchased beer and *Not true* allowed students to drink that beer at her residence. Heidi Ward told the police officers that there had been approximately fifteen people at her house, with between ten and twelve people, including herself, drinking alcohol. *Not true*

14. On June 24, 2008, Heidi Ward issued three criminal citations for Furnishing Liquor to a minor and permitting a person under the age of twenty-one to consume liquor on her premises, or premises under her control. (RCW 66.44.270.1) These charges were forwarded to the Longview City Prosecutor.

15. On August 6, 2008, Heidi Ward plead guilty to two counts of Furnishing Liquor to a minor and permitting a person under the age of twenty-one to consume liquor on her premises, or premises under her control.

16. On September 2, 2008, Heidi Ward met with an investigator from OPP. During her interview with that investigator, Heidi Ward stated that she has been dealing with issues that arose from an emotionally abusive relationship and from other issues in her past that have affected her judgment with boundary issues. She advised that she is currently seeing a psychologist in an attempt to address those issues.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Heidi Ward and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 420875G, of Heidi Ward, should be suspended as provided for in WAC 181-86-070.

3. Heidi Ward has violated: WAC 181-87-085, RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-013, and/or WAC 181-86-014

/

/

/

/

/

/

/

/

/

/

/

/

/

ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and agreed that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 420875G, of Heidi Ward, be suspended for 24 months from the date of entry of this Order.

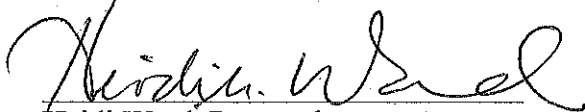
REINSTATEMENT SHALL require adherence to the following stipulations: (1) successful completion of a psychological evaluation which validates Heidi Ward's ability to have unsupervised access to children, by an evaluator mutually agreed upon by the Office of Professional Practices (OPP) and Heidi Ward; (2) that Heidi Ward provide written consent for OSPI to release documents to the evaluator for purposes of completing an evaluation and course of treatment; (3) that Heidi Ward follows and complete any and all treatment recommended in the evaluation; (4) that Heidi Ward provides a release authorizing OPP to have access to records of any and all evaluation and any and all subsequent treatment undertaken; (5) and that the cost of conformance to all reinstatement requirements will be the responsibility of Heidi Ward.


REINSTATEMENT SHALL also require submission of a new application, provided by OPP and having Heidi Ward's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP). Reinstatement shall be also contingent upon Heidi Ward's fingerprint background check returning with no criminal convictions that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, and/or any felony convictions

DATED This 3rd day of November, 2008.

DR. TERRY BERGESON
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

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


Heidi Ward, Respondent

By: 
Martin Mueller
Assistant Superintendent
Student Support