

I, Nichole Anderson certify that on February 16, 2011, 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.

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION)
CERTIFICATE OF)
)
PATRICIA BONCZ)
Certificate No. 417456A)
_____)

OPP No.D08-05-036

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES

FINAL ORDER OF
SUSPENSION

COMES NOW Gene Sharratt, Review Officer of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), having reviewed the files of the above-referenced case, and having considered the arguments of each party and the recommendation of the Admissions and Professional Conduct Advisory Committee, does hereby order that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 417456A, of Patricia Boncz be suspended for twelve (12) months based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Patricia Boncz was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 417456A, on June 21, 2004. That certificate expired June 30, 2009. The actions described in the following Findings of Fact occurred while Washington Education Certificate, No. 417456A, was valid.

2. Patricia Boncz was employed by the Kelso School District.

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3. On May 21, 2008, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from Glenys Hill, the superintendent of the Kelso 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 Patricia Boncz.

4. On December 19, 2006, Jacqueline Ammons, an Instructional Assistant at Butler Acres Elementary School, filed a written complaint with Superintendent Glenys Hill, citing several concerns about Patricia Boncz and her treatment of students in her Behaviorally Disabled classroom.

5. On January 29, 2007, Human Resource Specialists Linda Haseman and Ian Deiter issued a Memo to Superintendent Glenys Hill to report the findings of their investigation pertaining to the written allegations made by Jacqueline Ammons on December 19, 2006.

6. On February 2, 2007, Tom Wyman, Director, Special Services and Principal Mark Connolly responded with a Memo to Superintendent Glenys Hill citing plans to mitigate the areas identified in the investigation by the Human Resource Specialists with additional training for staff.

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7. On October 2, 2007, in an attempt to correct a pattern of shoving students by D.H., a 6 year old male student, Patricia Boncz placed D.H. in a standing position at the front of the

classroom. Without explanation, Patricia Boncz charged at D.H. from several feet away, hitting him on the right shoulder with her shoulder, knocking him to the floor.

8. On October 3, 2007, Patricia Bonca participated in an interview with Cindy Cromwell, Butler Acres Elementary School Principal and Tom Wyman, Director, Special Programs.

9. On October 3, 2007, Patricia Boncz was placed on Administrative Leave by Mark Hottowe, Executive Director of Student Services and Human Resources.

10. On October 4, 2007, Kelso Police Department initiated an investigation into the incident involving Patricia Boncz and D,H.; Kelso Police Department Case No. 07-11614.

11. On October 26, 2007, a Criminal Complaint and an Arrestee Information and Probable Cause Sheet were filed in Kelso Municipal Court charging Patricia Boncz with 4th Degree Assault, RCW 9A.36.041; Case No. C68174.

12. On May 1, 2008, an Agreed Stipulation to Facts and Order of Continuance was filed in Kelso Municipal Court; Case No.C00068174; including the stipulation that Patricia Boncz resign from Kelso School District, effective May 15, 2008.

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13. On May 5, 2009, Patricia Boncz was issued an Order of Dismissal with Prejudice by Kelso Municipal Court.

14. On May 16, 2008, Patricia Boncz signed a Separation Agreement, resigning from the Kelso School District, effective May 15, 2008.

15. On May 15, 2009, Patricia Boncz participated in an interview with an OPP investigator.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Patricia Boncz and over the subject matter of this action.
2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate, No.417456A of Patricia Boncz, should be suspended as provided for in WAC 181-86-070.
3. Patricia Boncz has violated RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-87-060, WAC 392-400-235, WAC 181-86-013, and/or WAC 181-86-014.

ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No.417456A, of Patricia Boncz be suspended for twelve (12) months, effective upon the issuance of any Washington Education Certificate to Patricia Boncz.

REINSTATEMENT will require successful completion of Right Response and S.E.C.U.R.E. training and provide proof of completion to OPP.

AND Reinstatement shall also require submission of a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP and having Patricia Boncz's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP). Reinstatement shall be also contingent upon Patricia Boncz'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. The cost of conformance to all reinstatement requirements will be the responsibility of Patricia Boncz.

This Order will become final thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt of this order unless respondent files an appeal for a formal hearing before the Office of Administrative

Hearings. Please direct the appeal and request for formal hearing to Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Administrative Law Office, Old Capitol Building, P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200.

DATED this 16th day of February, 2011.

RANDY I. DORN
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington



DR. GENE SHARRATT
Review Officer