



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)	OPP No. D11-05-026
)	
Nancy Runyan)	FINAL ORDER
Certificate No. 214427G)	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. 214427G, of Nancy Runyan for two (2) months based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Nancy Runyan was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 214427G, on December 18, 1975. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Nancy Runyan was employed by the Spokane School District.
3. On May 5, 2011, the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), within OSPI, received a complaint letter alleging a lack of personal fitness, or a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-87, by Nancy Runyan.

NANCY RUNYAN
FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION



4. On January 23, 2009, Nancy Runyan had inappropriate physical contact with a female middle school student.

5. On January 27, 2009, Nikki Golden, Assistant Principal of Chase Middle School, wrote a Summary of Meeting letter in which she directed Nancy Runyan to maintain a professional demeanor at all time with students. Nancy Runyan was directed to refrain from touching students when redirecting their behavior or touching students for any reason not necessary to maintain student, staff or patron safety.

6. On May 21, 2010, Nancy Runyan had inappropriate physical interactions with a male middle school student. The incident was recorded on school video surveillance equipment.

7. On May 25, 2010, Nancy Runyan was placed on administrative leave.

8. On June 7, 2010, John Andes, Principal of Chase Middle School, conducted a district investigative meeting with Nancy Runyan regarding the May 21, 2010 incident. Due to district collective bargaining agreement timelines not being met, Nancy Runyan was not disciplined for this incident.

9. On March 31, 2011, Nancy Runyan had inappropriate physical and verbal interactions with a male student, A.S.; during which she, among other interactions, made inappropriate comments to him and shoved him.

10. On March 31, 2011, Nancy Runyan submitted an Office Discipline Referral Form regarding A.S. for disruptive conduct in classroom and fighting and/or harassing others.

11. On April 14, 2011, Ms. Runyan had inappropriate physical interactions with a female middle school student, M.H. The incident was recorded on school district video surveillance.

12. On April 14, 2011, Nancy Runyan submitted an Office Discipline Referral Form regarding M.H. for disrespectful and/or defiant behavior during the incident recorded on school surveillance equipment.

13. On April 14, 2011, John Andes conducted an investigative meeting with Nancy Runyan regarding her interaction with M.H.

14. On April 18, 2011, Nancy Runyan was placed on administrative leave with pay.

15. On April 27, 2011, Nancy Runyan was issued a Written Reprimand, for the April 14, 2011 incident involving M.H., in which she was directed to refrain from physically engaging with students except in emergency or safety situations and to refrain from exhibiting any behaviors which may be perceived as being retaliatory.

16. On May 18, 2011, Vikki Fogelson (Dolman), Assistant Principal, Chase Middle School sent an email to John Andes regarding her meeting with Nancy Runyan. Nancy Runyan had approached her with concerns of a hostile working situation in regard to the female student M.H.

Nancy Runyan asked for guidance in handling this particular student to which Vikki indicated she should stay away from the student and report to another staff member or administrator.

17. On June 1, 2011, Nancy Runyan sent an email to Vikki Dolman regarding M.H. eating lunch in the halls. Nancy Runyan asked, among other things, if she should ignore the behavior and then asked for direction on how to handle students being in the hallway during the lunch times.

18. On June 6, 2011, Ms. Runyan, while walking through the halls during passing time, walked through a group of students and made physical contact with M.H.; which M.H. took to be retaliatory action.

19. On June 13, 2011, John Andes, Principal conducted an investigative meeting with Nancy Runyan regarding the June 6, 2011 incident.

20. On October 19, 2011, Nancy Runyan signed a settlement agreement with the Spokane Public Schools; in which she resigned her position effective June 30, 2012.

21. On May 23, 2013, OPP contacted Nancy Runyan's attorney to schedule an interview to provide Nancy Runyan the opportunity to respond to the allegations, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 28A.410.090.

22. On August 14, 2013, OPP received an email from Nancy Runyan's attorney indicating that he has been unable to contact Nancy Runyan.

23. On August 16, 2013, OPP issued a two (2) month Proposed Order of Suspension with stipulations.

24. On September 9, 2013, Nancy Runyan's attorney contacted OPP to indicate that Nancy Runyan wished to participate in an interview and asking that the 30 day appeal timeline of the Proposed Order be extended to allow for her to respond to the allegations. OPP agreed to extend the 30 day timeline for appeal to allow Nancy Runyan to respond.

25. On October 15, 2013, an interview was scheduled with the OPP investigator, Nancy Runyan and her attorney. Nancy Runyan failed to appear for the scheduled interview.

26. On October 16, 2013, with the agreement of her attorney, OPP sent interview questions to Nancy Runyan to provide Nancy Runyan with the opportunity to respond to the allegations of misconduct. Nancy Runyan's signed statement was received on October 30, 2013.

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

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Nancy Runyan and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate No. 214427G, of Nancy Runyan, should be suspended for unprofessional conduct and/or lack of good moral character or personal fitness. RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-070, WAC 181-87-060; WAC 181-86-013; WAC 181-86-014.

ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 214427G, of Nancy Runyan be suspended for two (2) months.

REINSTATEMENT will require that: (1) Nancy Runyan shall obtain an anger management evaluation by an evaluator mutually agreed upon between Nancy Runyan and OPP; (2) that Nancy Runyan provides written consent for OPP to release documents to the provider for purposes of completing the evaluation; (3) that Nancy Runyan follows and completes any and all treatment recommended in the evaluation; (4) that Nancy Runyan will provide OPP with evidence of her successful completion of or continued compliance in her treatment program and; (5) if requested, Nancy Runyan 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 requirements will be the responsibility of Nancy Runyan.

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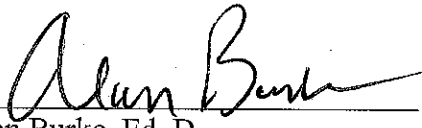
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AND Reinstatement shall (also) require: (1) submission of a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP and having Nancy Runyan's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP). Reinstatement shall also be contingent upon Nancy Runyan's fingerprint background check returning with no criminal convictions that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, any felony convictions.

DATED This 9 day of January, 2014.

RANDY I. DORN
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington



Alan Burke, Ed. D
Deputy Superintendent
K-12 Education