

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION)	
CERTIFICATE OF)	OPP No. D21-03-010
)	
RYAN SEIDEL)	FINAL ORDER
Certificate No. 399220C)	OF MANDATORY
)	PERMANENT REVOCATION
)	

After receiving and investigating a complaint from East Valley School District regarding the above referenced Educator, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, through his undersigned designee, institutes this proceeding and finds that RYAN SEIDEL ("Educator") has been convicted of a crime listed in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 28A.400.322 and per RCW 28A.410.090(4) does hereby PERMANENTLY REVOKE the Educator's ability to hold Washington Education Certificate No. 399220C, based on the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On June 10, 2002, the Educator was issued Washington Education Certificate No. 399220C. The Educator's certificate expired on June 30, 2021.
- 2. During the 2019–2020 school year, the Educator was employed by the School District at East Valley High School as a Teacher on Special Assignment.

- 3. On March 9, 2021, the Office of Professional Practices ("OPP") within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction ("OSPI") received a complaint from Kelly Shea, the Superintendent of the School District, alleging that the Educator demonstrated a lack of good moral character and personal fitness pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-86-013(1) and had been charged with twelve counts of sex offenses related to minors.
- 4. Between March 1, 2019, and July 28, 2020, the Educator was in possession of and sent multiple images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct through electronic means. The ages of the minors ranged from one (1) year old to sixteen (16) years old.
- 5. On July 29, 2020, a search warrant was executed at the Educator's residence by law enforcement officers.
- 6. On August 4, 2020, the Educator was placed on administrative leave by the School District.
- 7. On February 10, 2021, An <u>Information</u> was filed in Spokane County Superior Court charging the Educator with five (5) counts of Dealing in Depictions of Minors engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 1st Degree (RCW 9.68A.050); five (5) counts of Possession of Depictions of Minors engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 1st Degree (RCW 9.68A.0070); and two (2) counts of Dealing in Depictions of Minors engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 2nd Degree (RCW 9.68A.050 and 9.68A.070).
- 8. On March 11, 2021, the Educator signed a Settlement Agreement with the School District. Per the Agreement, the Educator resigned his employment, effective August 31, 2021.

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- 9. On November 29, 2021, a <u>Statement of Defendant on Plea of Guilty to Sex Offense</u> was filed in Spokane County Superior Court. Per the Statement, the Educator pleaded guilty to one (1) count of Possession of Depictions of Minors engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 1st Degree.
- 10. On January 11, 2022, the Educator was found guilty, by plea, of one count of Possession of Depictions of Minors Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct, 1st Degree, RCW 9.68A.070(1). The Educator was sentenced to twelve (12) months and one (1) day incarceration, 36 months of Community Custody upon release from incarceration, \$800 fines, and sex offender registration.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Chapter 28A.410 RCW gives the Professional Educator Standards Board the authority to develop regulations determining eligibility for and certification of personnel employed in the common schools of the state of Washington. OSPI acts as the administrator of those statutes and regulations and has the authority to issue, reprimand, suspend, and revoke education certificates. RCW 28A.410.010; RCW 28A.410.090. Chapters 181-86 and 181-87 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) further implement OSPI's authority.
- 2. OSPI has jurisdiction over the Educator and the subject matter of this action.
- 3. Pursuant to WAC 181-86-070, there is clear and convincing evidence the Educator has pleaded guilty to or has been convicted of a crime specified in RCW 28A.410.090(4).
- 4. Pursuant to RCW 28A.410.090(4), WAC 181-86-013(2), and WAC 181-86-014, a plea of guilty or a conviction of Possession of Depictions of Minors Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct, RCW 9.68A.070 mandates OSPI to permanently revoke the Educator's certificate.

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- 5. Pursuant to WAC 181-86-170, WAC 181-86-013(4), and WAC 181-86-014, there is clear and convincing evidence the Educator has a behavioral problem that endangers the educational welfare or personal safety of students.
- 6. Pursuant to WAC 181-86-080, eleven factors, at a minimum, are to be considered to determine the appropriate level and range of educator discipline:
 - (1) The seriousness of the act(s) and the actual or potential harm to persons or property;
 - (2) The person's criminal history including the seriousness and amount of activity;
 - (3) The age and maturity level of participant(s) at the time of the activity;
 - (4) The proximity or remoteness of time in which the acts occurred;
 - (5) Any activity that demonstrates a disregard for health, safety or welfare;
 - (6) Any activity that demonstrates a behavioral problem;
 - (7) Any activity that demonstrates a lack of fitness;
 - (8) Any information submitted regarding discipline imposed by any governmental or private entity as a result of acts or omissions;
 - (9) Any information submitted that demonstrates aggravating or mitigating circumstances;
 - (10) Any information submitted to support character and fitness; and
 - (11) Any other relevant information submitted.
- 7. Based on the foregoing facts, considering them in light of the eleven factors enumerated in WAC 181-86-080, and in light of WAC 181-86-075, RCW 28A.410.090(4), and WAC 181-86, the Educator's education certificate should be permanently revoked for conviction of a felony crime under RCW 28A.410.090(4) which bars the Educator from any future practice as an educator.

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III. ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that RYAN SEIDEL's ability to hold Washington Education Certificate No. 399220C of is **PERMANENTLY REVOKED.**

DATED this 31st day of August , 2022.

CHRIS REYKDAL Superintendent of Public Instruction State of Washington

Matthew A. Schultz

Chief Legal and Civil Rights Officer