



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

Carri Priestley
Certificate No. 366695E

OPP No. D13-02-016

AGREED ORDER OF SUSPENSION

INTRODUCTION

After receiving and investigating a complaint from Sultan, Washington School District regarding the above referenced educator, and based upon the facts available as of the date of this Agreed Order, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, through his undersigned designee, does hereby stipulate, by and between the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the Office of Professional Practices and Carri Priestley, that the Washington Education Certificate No. 366695E, of Carri Priestley, shall be suspended based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On January 7, 1999, Carri Priestley, hereafter referred to as Ms. Priestley, was issued Washington Education Certificate, No. 366695E. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. OPP maintains that during the first half of the 2012-2013 school year, Ms. Priestley, an elementary school special education teacher, failed to report to the appropriate authorities various disclosures made by a 13 year old female middle school student, C.C. Ms. Priestley maintains, in

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part, that she reported such disclosures that were required to be reported and also was of the understanding that the former student was in counseling for such issues.

3. On or about November 20, 2012, David Paratore, Sultan School District Special Programs & School Support Executive Director, began an investigation into Ms. Priestley's communications and relationship with C.C. On November 20, 2012, Mr. Paratore had a discussion with Ms. Priestley, among other topics, about "boundary issues" with students. On multiple occasions, after November 22, 2012 Ms. Priestley continued conversations with C.C.

4. On February 11, 2013, Dan Chaplik, Sultan School District Superintendent, issued Ms. Priestley a letter of probable cause for termination. That notice was appealed and prior to the hearing the parties entered into a settlement agreement to resolve the matter.

5. On June 7, 2013, Ms. Priestley signed a Settlement Agreement with the Sultan School District. In the agreement, the District was to pay Ms. Priestley a sum of money and she was to resign her employment effective August 31, 2013.

6. OSPI maintains that in employment applications submitted to the Ellensburg School District, Yakima School District and Wahluke School District, Ms. Priestley misrepresented, or failed to disclose, or both, the material information regarding the termination of her employment with the Sultan School District. Ms. Priestley maintains that she provided accurate information based on the application questions and consistent with the settlement agreement with the Sultan School District. Ms. Priestley also maintains that prospective employer school districts had, or had access to, her personnel file with the Sultan School District.

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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, suspend, and revoke education certificates. RCW 28A.410.010, .090, WAC 181-86 and WAC 181-87 further implement OPSI's authority.
2. OSPI has jurisdiction over Carri Priestley and the subject matter discussed herein.
3. Carri Priestley committed acts of unprofessional conduct by failing to report child abuse and neglect, by having inappropriate interactions with a student and by making material misrepresentations in connection with employment applications to other school districts. WAC 181-87-060; WAC 181-87-050.
4. There is clear and convincing evidence that Carri Priestley committed unprofessional conduct. WAC 181-86-170.
5. Based on the foregoing, Carri Priestley's education certificate should be suspended for unprofessional conduct.

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ORDER OF SUSPENSION

NOW THEREFORE, based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 366695E, of Carri Priestley be suspended from June 29, 2016 to August 29, 2016, and:

REINSTATEMENT of Carri Priestley's education certificate shall require: (1) successful completion of a training course or program on reporting issues and concerns for child safety, abuse, and neglect by a training provider mutually agreed upon by the Office of Professional Practices and Carri Priestley, in the event Ms. Priestley has not completed the training by December 31, 2016, her Washington Education Certificate will be suspended until this requirement is completed; (2) successful completion of a training course or program on appropriate interactions with students by a training provider mutually agreed upon by the Office of Professional Practices and Carri Priestley, in the event Ms. Priestley has not completed the training by December 31, 2016, her Washington Education Certificate will be suspended until this requirement is completed; (3) Carri Priestley will provide proof of completion of the above-listed trainings; (4) submission of a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP and having Carri Priestley's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP); and (5) that if Carri Priestley's education certificate expires during the period of suspension, Carri Priestley will show that she meets all academic requirements for renewal/reinstatement of the education certificate. Reinstatement shall also be contingent upon Carri Priestley's fingerprint background check returning with no criminal convictions, occurring after the date of issuance of a Final Order of Suspension, that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, or any felony convictions. The cost of conformance to all reinstatement requirements will be the responsibility of Carri Priestley.

DATED this 29th day of July, 2016.

RANDY I. DORN
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

Dierk Meierbachtol
Chief legal Officer

Stipulated to and approved
for entry:

Carri Priestley
Carri Priestley

Douglas M. Wartelle
Douglas M. Wartelle, WSBA 25267
Attorney for Carri Priestley

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