



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION)	
CERTIFICATE OF)	OPP No. D25-01-001
)	
JOHN BUTZ Jr)	FINAL ORDER
Certificate No. 278098R)	OF MANDATORY
)	PERMANENT REVOCATION
)	

After receiving and investigating a complaint from Northshore School District (“School District”) regarding the above referenced educator, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, through his undersigned designee, institutes this proceeding and finds that JOHN BUTZ Jr (“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 Washington Education Certificate No. 278098R and does hereby PERMANENTLY REVOKE the Educator’s ability to apply for reinstatement based on the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On August 31, 1987, the Educator was issued Washington Education Certificate No. 278098R. The Educator’s certificate will expire on June 30, 2027.
2. During the 2024–25 school year, the Educator was employed by the School District at Leota Middle School as a Science teacher.
3. On December 17, 2024, the Office of Professional Practices (“OPP”) within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (“OSPI”) received a complaint from Michael Tolley, the Superintendent of the School District, alleging 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 arrested for felony sex crimes against minors.

4. Between November 16, 2024, and December 10, 2024, the Educator engaged in discussions with who he believed to be the mother of minor aged children for the purposes of engaging in sexual activity and sexual intercourse with the minor aged children, primarily a 12-year-old female.

5. The persons the Educator had conversations with were actually commissioned law enforcement officers participating in the International Crimes Against Children task forces.

6. On December 10, 2024, the Educator was arrested by law enforcement at the site where he had made arrangements to meet and have sexual intercourse and sexual contact with a 12-year-old female.

7. On December 11, 2024, the Educator was placed on administrative leave.

8. On December 12, 2024, an Information and Certification for Determination of Probable Cause were filed in King County Superior Court charging the Educator with Attempted Rape of a Child 2nd Degree, RCW 9A.44.076.

9. On December 15, 2025, a First Amended Information was filed in King County Superior Court amending the charges against the Educator to Attempted Child Molestation in the 2nd Degree, RCW 9A.44.086.

10. On December 15, 2025, a Statement of Defendant on Plea of Guilty was filed in King County Superior Court. In the Statement, the Educator pleaded guilty to the felony crime of Attempted Child Molestation 2nd Degree.

11. On January 15, 2025, the Educator signed a Resignation Agreement and Release with the School District. Per the Agreement, the Educator resigned his employment effective January 15, 2025, and received a one-time payment of \$94,987.64.

12. On January 16, 2026, the Educator was found guilty, by plea, of Attempted Child Molestation 2nd Degree, RCW 9A.44.086, and was sentenced to: thirteen (13) months incarceration; community custody for thirty-six (36) months after release from incarceration; no contact for five (5) years with minors without supervision of a responsible adult who has knowledge of the conviction; and sex offender registration.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. RCW Chapter 28A.410 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 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 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.

5. Pursuant to WAC 181-86-075, permanent revocation is appropriate discipline when (1) the superintendent of public instruction has determined that the education practitioner has committed a felony crime under WAC 181-86-013 (1) or (2) which bars the education practitioner from any future practice as an education practitioner.

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, and 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 demonstrating a lack of good moral character and personal fitness pursuant to WAC 181-86-013(1) and being convicted of a felony crime under RCW 28A.410.090(4).

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III. ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that Washington Education Certificate No. 278098R and JOHN BUTZ Jr's ability to hold a Washington Education Certificate is **PERMANENTLY REVOKED.**

DATED this 11th day of June, 2026.

CHRIS REYKDAL
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington



Monique Malson
Deputy Chief Legal Officer