



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION
CERTIFICATE OF

JEREMY KRISS
Certificate No. 499794F

OPP No. D21-07-020

FINAL ORDER
OF SUSPENSION

After receiving and investigating a report from the National Association of School Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) regarding the above referenced educator, and based upon the facts available as of the date of this Proposed Order, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, through his undersigned designee, institutes this proceeding and finds, as described below, that JEREMY KRISS (Educator) engaged in acts of unprofessional conduct to include Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-87-050(5), and does hereby SUSPEND the Educator's Washington Education Certificate No. 499794F for not less than twelve (12) months with conditions enumerated below, based on the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On July 24, 2013, the Educator was issued Washington Education Certificate No. 499794F. The Educator's Substitute Teacher Certificate has no expiration date.
2. During the 2018–2019 school year, the Educator was employed by the Butte County, California, Office of Education at Hearthstone Charter School as a classroom teacher.

3. On June 8, 2021, the Office of Professional Practices (OPP) within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) received a report from NASDTEC stating that the State of California had revoked the Educator's California teaching credentials.
4. During the 2018–2019 school year, the Educator's daughter was enrolled as a student at Hearthstone Charter School. During this period, the Educator acted without administrative authorization and used his school computer privileges to access his daughter's coursework and grade records.
5. During the 2018–2019 school year, the Educator, without authorization, altered his daughter's course grades and changed her required coursework record at least one-hundred-eighty-five (185) times.
6. On February 20, 2019, the Educator was placed on administrative leave.
7. On August 2, 2019, the Educator signed a Settlement Agreement and Release with the Butte County Office of Education, in which the Educator agreed to resign his employment effective June 30, 2019.
8. On March 21, 2021, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing revoked the Educator's California teaching credentials.

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. The Educator committed acts of unprofessional conduct pursuant to WAC 181-87-050(5) for using his school provided credentials to repeatedly alter his child's grades and course records.
4. There is a clear and convincing evidence that the Educator committed acts of unprofessional conduct pursuant to WAC 181-86-170.
5. 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.
6. 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 181-86-070, and WAC 181-87-050(5), the Educator's education certificate should be suspended for unprofessional conduct and/or a behavioral problem which endangers the educational welfare or personal safety of students, teachers, or other colleagues within the educational setting.

III. ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate No. 499794F of JEREMY KRISS is **SUSPENDED**. The Educator may not request reinstatement of his education certificate for at least twelve (12) months from the effective date of this ORDER.

REINSTATEMENT of JEREMY KRISS'S education certificate shall require:

- (1) The Educator must submit a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP;
- (2) The Educator must complete a fingerprint-based criminal background check through both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Washington State Patrol;
- (3) The Educator's fingerprint background check must return 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; AND
- (4) The Educator shall assume all costs of complying with the requirements of this Order.

DATED this 5th day of December, 2022.

CHRIS REYKDAL
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

Signed: Matthew A. Schultz
Chief Legal and Civil Rights Officer