

## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DR. TERRY BERGESON 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. D02-11-119
	)	
	)	AGREED ORDER
James Pruss	)	OF SUSPENSION
Certificate No. 222559G	)	
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COMES NOW the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 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 stipulate by and between the Office of Professional Practices (OPP), Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and James Pruss, that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 222559G, of James Pruss, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

## FINDING OF FACTS

- James Pruss was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 222559G, on June 18,
  That certificate currently remains valid.
- 2. James Pruss is employed by the Oak Harbor School District.

- 3. On October 30, 2002, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the superintendent of the Oak Harbor School District alleging a lack of good moral character or personal fitness, or a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 180-87, by James Pruss.
- 4. On October 25, 2002, James Pruss received a written reprimand from Dr. Richard Schulte, Oak Harbor School District Superintendent, for, in part, requiring students to participate in fundraising activities. On May 30, 2003, James Pruss received a written reprimand from Dr. Richard Schulte for, in part, requiring student participation in fundraising activity under pain of having grades negatively impacted.
- 5. On October 25, 2002, James Pruss received a written reprimand from Dr. Richard Schulte for, in part, directing students to make contributions to the Choir Booster Club. On May 30, 2003, James Pruss received a written reprimand from Dr. Richard Schulte for, in part, inappropriately implementing a "fair share" choir funding program as a condition of participating in the choir program.
- 6. On October 25, 2002, James Pruss received a written reprimand from Dr. Richard Schulte for, in part, failing to properly receipt checks and for holding checks and not depositing them daily as directed.
- 7. Good moral character and personal fitness is a continuing requirement to maintain a Washington Education Certificate.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. OSPI has jurisdiction over James Pruss and over the subject matter of this action.
- 3. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that Washington Education Certificate, No. 222559G, of James Pruss, should be suspended as provided for in WAC 180-86-070.
- 3. James Pruss has violated WAC 180-87-060.

## **ORDER**

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and agreed that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 222559G, of James Pruss, be suspended for a period of thirty (30) days from July 20, 2004 to August 19, 2004. Mr. Pruss' Washington Education Certificate, No. 222559G, shall be automatically reinstated at the end of the suspension period on August 20, 2004.

DATED This ZO day of August, 2004.

DR. TERRY BERGESON

Superintendent of Public Instruction

State of Washington

Stipulated to and approved

For entry:

jus

James Pruss, Respondent

Marcia L. Riggers

Assistant Superintendent

**Student Support and Operations** 

Douglas Wartelle, Attorney for Respondent

WSBA # 25267

JAMES PRUSS

AGREED ORDER OF SUSPENSION