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## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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**Chris Reykdal** Old Capitol Building · PO BOX 47200 · Olympia, WA 98504-7200 · <http://www.k12.wa.us>

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RE: Ann Brandt  
OSPI Case Number: D14-01-011  
Document: Suspension

Regarding your request for information about the above-named educator; attached is a true and correct copy of the document on file with the State of Washington, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Office of Professional Practices. These records are considered certified by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Certain information may have been redacted pursuant to Washington state laws. While those laws require that most records be disclosed on request, they also state that certain information should not be disclosed.

The following information has been withheld: **None**

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the information that was redacted, if any, please contact:

OSPI Public Records Office  
P.O. Box 47200  
Olympia, WA 98504-7200  
Phone: (360) 725-6372  
Email: [PublicRecordsRequest@k12.wa.us](mailto:PublicRecordsRequest@k12.wa.us)

You may appeal the decision to withhold or redact any information by writing to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, OSPI P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200.



# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION )  
CERTIFICATE OF )

OPP No. D14-01-011

ANN M. BRANDT )  
Certificate No. 319207G )

FINAL ORDER  
OF SUSPENSION

After receiving and investigating a complaint from Northshore School District 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 ANN M. BRANDT (“the Educator”) engaged in acts of unprofessional conduct to include WAC 181-87-060(1), and does hereby suspend the Educator’s Washington Education Certificate, No. 319207G, for not less than six (6) months with conditions enumerated below, based on the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

## **I. FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. On January 27, 1993, the Educator was issued an Initial Teacher Certificate, No. 319207G. The Educator’s Initial Teacher Certificate expired on August 31, 1997. On October 30, 1997, the Educator was issued a Continuing Teacher Certificate, No. 319207G. The Continuing Teacher Certificate expired on June 30, 2014.

2. At or about the beginning of the 1995-1996 school year, the Educator was hired by Northshore School District as a health fitness instructor, where she remained employed until her resignation with the effective date of March 31, 2014.

ANN M. BRANDT  
FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION

3. On January 8, 2014, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from the Superintendent of Northshore School District alleging flagrant disregard or clear abandonment of generally recognized professional standards, or a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 181-87-060, by the Educator.

4. During the 2012-2013 school year, the Educator was observed by several teachers in the School District interacting with Student A, a fifteen (15) year-old male student attending the school where the Educator was employed, in a manner that violated the School District's policy, Board Policy 5253 regarding Boundary Invasion – Maintaining Professional and Appropriate Boundaries between Employees and Students. The Educator was on notice of this policy, as evidenced by the mandatory Boundary Invasion Training Attendance Sheet, which she signed in or about August 2011.

5. During the 2012-2013 school year, the Educator spent time alone with Student A, had overly friendly conversations with him, and wrote a message in his yearbook that crossed the line of professionalism, stating "...You know I do not want you to move. I want you to stay here with your friends and experience all high school has to offer with them. I would love a graduation picture with you, L[.], D[.]and M[.]!!! I love you my son and want nothing but the best for you. If you need anything you know how to reach me. My offer will never change either for you. Be sure to keep involved in athletics especially the 800 and wrestling! Please keep in touch and let me know if you need anything and how you are doing!"

6. On or about August 8, 2013, the Educator took Student A to her home. On this same occasion, she took him to a restaurant and purchased his dinner. After dinner, she and Student A went to a beach and then returned to her home to play video games.

7. On August 12, 2013, the Educator was placed on paid administrative leave pending an investigation into allegations of acting inappropriately with a student.

## **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.410.090, RCW 28A.410.010, and WAC 181-86 and WAC 181-87 further implement OPSI'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 181-87-060(1).

4. There is 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 181-87-060(1), the Educator's education certificate should be suspended for unprofessional conduct.

### **III. ORDER**

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 319207G, of ANN M. BRANDT is **SUSPENDED**. The Educator may not request reinstatement of her education certificate for at least six (6) months from the effective date of this ORDER.

**REINSTATEMENT** of Ann Brandt's education certificate shall require:

- (1) In addition to any mandatory continuing education, the Educator must successfully complete an in-person EDUCATOR BOUNDARIES course, preapproved by OSPI. The Educator will provide OSPI proof of completion of the course prior to requesting reinstatement;
- (2) The Educator must submit a new application, including a Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP;
- (3) The Educator must complete a fingerprint-based criminal background check through both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP);
- (4) The Educator's fingerprint background check must return with no criminal convictions, occurring after the date of issuance of a Final Order or Suspension, that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, or any felony convictions;
- (5) The Educator's education certificate has expired. The Educator must show that she meets all academic requirements for renewal/reinstatement of the expired education certificate;
- (6) The Educator shall assume all costs of complying with the requirements of this Order.

DATED This 3rd day of January, 2017.

RANDY I. DORN  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Washington

Signed: Dierk Meierbachtol  
Chief Legal Officer

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