



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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

RE: Gerald Grellet-Tinner
OSPI Case Number: D15-11-096
Document: Final Order of Revocation

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

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.



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IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION
CERTIFICATE OF

GERALD GRELLET-TINNER
Certificate No. 517153C

OPP No. D15-11-096

FINAL ORDER
OF REVOCATION

UNDER THE AUTHORITY granted by the laws of the state of Washington, and after reviewing the file; conducting the “informal meeting” provided for in WAC 181-86-145; considering the evidence, the written submissions, and providing an opportunity for oral arguments by the parties; and considering the discussion and input provided by the Admissions and Professional Conduct Advisory Committee, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, through his designated Review Officer, Dr. Walt Bigby, enters this Order of Revocation based on the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On May 11, 2015, the Educator was issued Washington Education Certificate, No. 517153C. That certificate expired on June 30, 2017.
2. On or about October 30, 2015, the Office of Professional Practices (“OPP”) within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (“OSPI”) received a complaint letter from Mr. Eric C. Webb, the Superintendent of the School District, alleging the Educator had engaged in an inappropriate relationship with an Orcas Island High School student.

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3. The Educator was hired by the School District for the 2015–2016 school year to teach Biology and Chemistry at the Orcas Island High School.
4. Student A, a nineteen (19) year old female student, became the teacher’s assistant for the Educator on or around September 14, 2015. Student A was enrolled in the School District.
5. The Educator invited Student A to his house on or about September 20, 2015, to grade papers. Student A stayed at the Educator’s house for approximately three (3) hours. During this time, the Educator discussed personal issues and invited the student to use his hot tub. The student declined because she did not have a bathing suit with her.
6. Student A invited the Educator to attend a barbeque with her family at a local park scheduled for October 4, 2015. On October 4, 2015, Student A arrived at the Educator’s house at approximately 5:00 pm so they could travel together to the barbeque site. Student A and the Educator left the Educator’s house and kayaked to the park where Student A’s family was having their barbeque. After the barbeque, the Educator and Student A kayaked back to the Educator’s house. Once at the Educator’s house, Student A and the Educator engaged in sexual contact to include sexual intercourse.
7. On October 6, 2015, Student A had lunch with teacher Heidi Bruce, and Student A disclosed that she had engaged in sexual contact with the Educator. Ms. Bruce was concerned for Student A, but because the student was not a minor, Ms. Bruce wanted to do research prior to reporting the Educator to administration.
8. On October 6, 2015, Student A went to the Educator’s house and engaged in sexual contact to include sexual intercourse with the Educator.
9. On or about October 7, 2015, Ms. Bruce met with Student A and informed her that Ms. Bruce was obligated to report the sexual contact between Student A and the Educator, because, even though the student was not a minor, she met the definition of a student.

10. On or about October 8, 2015, Ms. Bruce met with Mr. Freeman, the principal of Orcas Island High School, to report the inappropriate contact between the Educator and Student A. Mr. Freeman contacted the Superintendent of the School District and reported the Educator's conduct immediately following his meeting with Ms. Bruce.

11. On October 9, 2015, the Educator was placed on paid administrative leave, and a notification letter was sent to the Educator on November 5, 2015.

12. On or about October 14, 2015, The School District contacted San Juan County Sheriff's Office regarding an inappropriate relationship between Student A and the Educator. Detective Stephen G. Parker was assigned as the investigator and he began his investigation that day.

13. On or about October 15, 2015, and October 20, 2015, Detective Parker interviewed Student A. During one of these interviews, Student A gave Detective Parker tissue paper and underwear that she believed may have DNA samples on them.

14. On October 27, 2015, Emma C. Scanlan, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney of the San Juan County Prosecutor's office filed Information in San Juan County Superior Court, Cause No. 15-1-05033-5. The Educator was charged with two counts of Sexual Misconduct with a Minor in the First Degree.

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15. On or about November 10, 2015, Elizabeth F. Uhrich, Forensic Scientist, concluded in Crime Laboratory Report that semen was detected on the tissue and Student A's underwear. Mr. Uhrich further concluded that the DNA profile obtained from the underwear was a mixture originating from two individuals: the Educator and Student A. The estimated probability of selecting an unrelated individual at random from the U.S. population with a DNA profile matching the Educator's is 1 in 80 quintillion.

16. On June 15, 2016, the jury trial for Cause No. 15-1-05033-5 began in San Juan County.

17. On June 16, 2016, Detective Parker testified to the chain of custody regarding the evidence gathered during his investigation, including the underwear belonging to Student A and tissue paper retrieved from Student A during the course of Detective Parker's investigation.

18. On June 24, 2016, the jury found the Educator guilty of two counts of Sexual Misconduct with a Minor in the First Degree.

19. On August 2, 2016, Randall K. Gaylord, San Juan County Prosecuting Attorney, filed a letter with the court indicating an investigation had commenced into the conduct of Detective Parker regarding his actions during his investigation of the Educator.

20. On September 26, 2016, Detective Parker was placed on administrative leave from the San Juan County Sheriff's Office. Shortly thereafter, Detective Parker obtained an attorney, voluntarily ended his employment with San Juan County Sheriff's Department, and moved out of state after the investigation revealed evidence that Detective Parker engaged in a sexual relationship with one of the key witnesses of the investigation of the sexual misconduct of the Educator.

21. On April 21, 2017, Cause No. 15-1-05033-5 in San Juan County Superior Court was dismissed with prejudice.

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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, 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 181-87-080.

4. There is clear and convincing evidence that the Educator committed acts of unprofessional conduct pursuant to WAC 181-86-075(2).

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.

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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 181-86-075 and WAC 181-87-080, the Educator's certificate is revoked for unprofessional conduct.

III. ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 517153C, of GERALD GRELLET-TINNER is **REVOKED**.

This order becomes final thirty (30) days after the postmarked date of mailing unless the educator files an appeal for a formal hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Appeals should be addressed to:

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Administrative Resource Services
PO Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504

DATED This 18th day of November, 2018.

CHRIS REYKDAL
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

Signed: Dr. Walt Bigby
Review Officer