



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

RANDY I. DORN 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. D10-04-022

NATHANIEL HAHNER)
Certificate No. 413685R)

AGREED ORDER
OF SUSPENSION

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 Nathaniel Hahner, that the Washington Education Certificate, No.413685R, of Nathaniel Hahner, shall be suspended, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

FINDING OF FACTS

1. Nathaniel Hahner was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 413685R, on December 29, 2003. That certificate currently remains valid.
2. Nathaniel Hahner was employed by the Bridgeport School District.

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3. On April 7, 2010, the Office of Professional Practices, within OSPI, received a complaint letter from Scott Sattler, the superintendent of the Bridgeport 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) 181-87, by Nathaniel Hahner.

4. From and during September 2008 to and including January 2010, Nathaniel Hahner had inappropriate interactions and relationships with several Bridgeport High School male students. The majority of these students were members of the school's Future Farmers of America (FFA) program which Nathaniel Hahner was contractually responsible for. The inappropriate interactions included, but are not limited to: 1) Nathaniel Hahner placing his hand inside the back of a student's pants to grab the student's underwear and then pull the underwear up; 2) Nathaniel Hahner having repeated contact, using his hand, on the exposed stomach skin of a student until the student's skin turns pink or red in color; 3) Giving students chiropractic adjustments, and massages; 4) allowing A.T. and A.V., two male high school students to live at his residence, 5) allowing students to spend time at his residence, playing video games, watching TV and eating meals and just "hanging out", 6) buying tools and a laptop computer for his graduating students and, 7) Driving students in his private vehicle.

5. On September 24, 2007, Nathaniel Hahner completed training titled, "What Every Employee Must Be Told" which was presented by Debby Sharp, a Supervisor/Trainer for Washington School Personnel Association (WSPA).

6. On February 21, 2008, Nathaniel Hahner met with Superintendent Eugene Schmidt and Principal Scott Sattler to discuss inappropriate touching of students, which included Nathaniel Hahner popping a student's back as well as receiving a back adjustment himself from a student. During the meeting, Scott Sattler issued Nathaniel Hahner a verbal warning and directed him to, "take a hands off approach and to not give back adjustments to students".

7. On June 10, 2008, a staff member observed Nathaniel Hahner giving a student a back adjustment. Nathaniel Hahner was issued a Notice of Written Reprimand by Principal Scott Sattler on June 11, 2008.

8. On or about August 2009 to on or about October 2009, Nathaniel Hahner allowed A.V. a male high school student, to stay at his residence for approximately one month when he (A.V.) claimed he had been kicked out of his house.

9. On or about August 2009 to on or about October 2009, Nathaniel Hahner allowed A.T., a male high school student to stay at his residence for approximately one month.

10. On or about September, 2009, Nathaniel Hahner approached the School Board with a proposal to allow FFA students to spend the night at his residence during the Okanogan County Fair which was held on September 10-13, 2009. The School Board denied his request.

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11. On September 23, 2009, Nathaniel Hahner attended Boundary Training with other staff from Bridgeport School District. The training, which was provided by Michele Kittrell from Canfield and Associates, included examples of behaviors that must be avoided by educators such as: 1) Texting students, 2) Sharing gossip with students, 3) Providing rides to students, 4) Being alone with a student, 5) Tickling or having other forms of physical contact, 6) Discussing Personal Issues with Students, 7) Giving Money and Gifts to Students 8) Engaging in peer like behavior with students, 9) Providing favors to certain particular students, and 10) Initiating or extending contact with students outside of school.

12. On January 6, 2010, Nathaniel Hahner was placed on paid administrative leave.

13. On March 29, 2010, Nathaniel Hahner entered into a Settlement Agreement and Release of All Claims with the Bridgeport School District.

14. On April 1, 2010, Nathaniel Hahner resigned from the Bridgeport School District.

15. On June 13, 2012, Nathaniel Hahner interviewed with an OPP investigator.

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Nathaniel Hahner and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the Washington Education Certificate No. 413685R, of Nathaniel Hahner, should be suspended for unprofessional conduct. RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 181-86-070, WAC 181-87-060.

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ORDER

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Washington Education Certificate, No. 413685R, of Nathaniel Hahner be suspended for six (6) months.

Reinstatement shall require: (1) submission of a new application, including Character and Fitness Supplement, provided by OPP and having Nathaniel Hahner's fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP); and (2) that if Nathaniel Hahner's education certificate expires during the period of suspension, Nathaniel Hahner will show that he meets all academic requirements for renewal/reinstatement of the education certificate. Reinstatement shall also be contingent upon Nathaniel Hahner's fingerprint background check returning with no criminal convictions that are listed in WAC 181-86-013, RCW 28A.410.090, any felony convictions.

DATED This 14 day of February, 2014.

RANDY I. DORN
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State of Washington

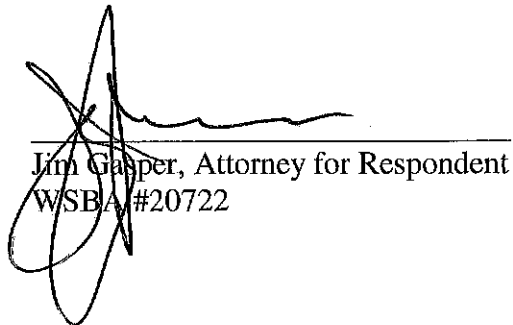


Alan Burke, Ed. D.
Deputy Superintendent
K-12 Education

Stipulated to and approved
For entry:



Nathaniel Hahner, Respondent



Jim Gasper, Attorney for Respondent
WSBA #20722

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