

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

In the matter of the certificates of:

Angela Edwards,

Respondent

Case No. 21808

STIPULATION

BACKGROUND

The Professional Standards Commission received an allegation of unethical conduct concerning Angela Edwards (“Ms. Edwards”). Following an investigation, the Executive Committee of the Professional Standards Commission reviewed the information before it and determined that probable cause exists for initiating an administrative action against Ms. Edwards’s certificates. The Executive Committee has recommended the following Stipulation.

STIPULATION

1. This is an agreement (Stipulation) between Ms. Edwards and the Executive Committee (the Executive Committee) of the Professional Standards Commission (the Commission).
2. If Ms. Edwards wishes to agree to this Stipulation, she must sign and return this Stipulation and any attachments to the Commission by 5:00 p.m. (mountain time) on August 30, 2018, unless she has been granted an extension.
3. After Ms. Edwards and the Executive Committee agree to and sign this Stipulation, the Stipulation must be approved by the Commission, and the Commission must enter the attached consent order, before this Stipulation resolves the matter.

4. A signed copy of this Stipulation may be submitted via mail or fax to:

Professional Standards Commission
650 West State Street, 2nd Floor
P .O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0027
Fax: (208) 334-2228 (Attn: Professional Standards Commission)

A. STIPULATED FACTS AND LAW

5. The Commission regulates teacher certification in Idaho.
6. Ms. Edwards holds the following certificates and endorsements issued under the authority of the Idaho State Board of Education:
 - a. Pupil Personnel Services certificate with School Social Worker (K-12) endorsement – effective September 1, 2016 – valid until August 31, 2021.
7. Ms. Edwards was a counselor at Grangeville Elementary/Middle School for the Mountain View School District #244 during the 2017-2018 school year.
8. On February 21, 2018, Ms. Edwards attended a basketball game at Troy High School that was being played between the Grangeville High School Boys Basketball team (“Grangeville Team”) and St. Maries High School Boys Basketball team (“St. Maries Team”), making the game a school sponsored event.
9. During the 3rd quarter of the game, Ms. Edwards was sitting in the gym on the side where the Grangeville Team fans were sitting and the fans of the St. Maries Team were sitting on the opposite side.
10. One of the fans for the St. Maries team could be heard to bark when a Grangeville Team member would shoot free throws.
11. At some point in the 3rd quarter, Ms. Edwards decided to speak with the student because she believed the barking to be poor sportsmanship.

12. She walked down the Grangeville side of the gym, then out into the lobby, then down the St. Maries side, and sat behind the St. Maries student in the bleacher stands.

13. After seating herself behind the St. Maries student, Ms. Edwards began to converse with him for a time until the student again barked during a free-throw attempt by a Grangeville player.

14. Ms. Edwards then proceeded to hit the student in the back of his head causing the student to have to readjust his hat.

15. The Executive Committee determined that probable cause exists for initiating an administrative action against Ms. Edwards for violating the following laws and rule governing teacher certification:

- a. Ms. Edwards's conduct or course of conduct willfully violated a code of ethics principle, adopted by the Idaho State Board of Education. Idaho Code § 33-1208(1)(j). Specifically, Ms. Edwards violated Code of Ethics Principle II (Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.02.076.03) ("A professional educator maintains a professional relationship with all students, both inside and outside the physical and virtual classroom.").

16. Ms. Edwards, although not admitting that she violated the laws and rule cited in paragraph 21, acknowledges that there is sufficient evidence to support a finding of a violation of the laws and rule cited in paragraph 21.

B. Stipulated Discipline

17. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, the following discipline will be imposed by the Commission on Ms. Edwards's certificate:

- a. The Commission will issue a letter of reprimand to be placed in Ms. Edwards's professional certification file; and
- b. Ms. Edwards complete a three credit professional boundaries course approved by the PSC within the next 12 months of the execution of this stipulation, which cannot be used for renewal purposes.

18. Any costs associated with Ms. Edwards's compliance with the terms of this Stipulation are her responsibility.

19. During the pendency of this Stipulation, Ms. Edwards will comply with all laws and rules governing teacher certification in Idaho.

C. Non-Compliance with this Stipulation

20. If the Commission or the State Department of Education, or its employees or agents, have reason to believe that Ms. Edwards has not complied with the terms of this Stipulation, the Chief Certification Officer may file a Notice of Non-Compliance with the Commission. This Notice of Non-Compliance will be personally served or be served by certified mail on Ms. Edwards at her last known address (or on her attorney). After granting Ms. Edwards an opportunity to respond, the Commission may order that she complete the discipline in the original stipulated discipline, may order further discipline in addition to Ms. Edwards completing the original stipulated discipline, or may impose other discipline as it sees fit, including suspending or revoking Ms. Edwards's certificate.

D. Presentation of this Stipulation

21. Once Ms. Edwards signs this Stipulation and timely returns it to the Commission, and the Executive Committee signs this Stipulation, the Deputy Attorney General assigned to the Commission will present this Stipulation to the Commission at the Commission's next business meeting.

22. The Commission may accept, reject, or modify the Stipulation.

23. If the Commission modifies this Stipulation, it must receive Ms. Edwards's approval on any modification before the Stipulation is effective.

E. Waiver of Rights

24. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, Ms. Edwards knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waives the following rights:

- a. the right to a hearing;
- b. the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses;
- c. the right to present evidence or to call witnesses, or to testify at a hearing;
- d. the right to reconsideration of the Commission's orders;
- e. the right to judicial review of the Commission's orders; and
- f. other rights accorded by the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act, and the law and rules governing teacher certification in the State of Idaho.

25. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, the Commission may impose the stipulated discipline contained herein upon Ms. Edwards's certificate without further process.

26. By signing this Stipulation, Ms. Edwards agrees to waive any requirement for a hearing under Idaho Code § 33-1209(3) to be conducted within 90 days of her request for a hearing. This waiver applies to any hearing request made before the Commission ultimately rejects this Stipulation (if it does) or before Ms. Edwards ultimately rejects a modified stipulation (if Ms. Edwards does). If the Commission ultimately rejects this Stipulation or if Ms. Edwards ultimately rejects a modified stipulation, and Ms. Edwards has requested a hearing, the 90-day hearing timeframe will begin from the ultimate rejection.

F. General Acknowledgments

27. This Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, and Ms. Edwards is not relying on any other agreement or representation, whether verbal or written.

28. This Stipulation, if approved by the Commission, or modified and approved, resolves a contested case. If approved, the Stipulation, consent order, and any attachment are public records. And if approved, the Commission may make available through its or the State Department of Education's website a copy of the Stipulation, consent order, and any attachment, and may report any discipline to the national clearinghouse for teacher certification.

29. Ms. Edwards agrees that she has read this Stipulation, has had the opportunity to discuss it with legal counsel, if she so chose, and understands that by signing below, she will be agreeing to the terms of this Stipulation.

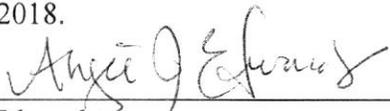
//
//
//
//
//
//
//

SIGNATURES

Respondent

The respondent, Angela Edwards, agrees to this Stipulation.

DATED this 25 day of August, 2018.



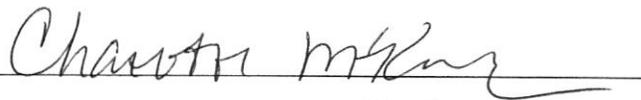
Angela Edwards
Respondent

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee recommends that the Commission enter an Order based upon this Stipulation.

DATED this 16 day of November, 2018.

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



, Member

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

In the matter of the certificate of:

Angela Edwards,

Respondent

Case No. 21811

CONSENT ORDER

The Professional Standards Commission orders that the Stipulation, entered between Angela Edwards and the Executive Committee, is adopted as the informal disposition of this case, as permitted under Idaho Code § 67-5241. It will be effective on the 16 day of November, 2018. The discipline listed in the Stipulation is imposed on Angela Edwards's certificate under Idaho Code §§ 33-1208 and 33-1209. This is a final agency order, and Angela Edwards has waived the right of judicial review.

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION


Elisa Saffle, Member

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 19th day of November, 2018, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing by the following method to:

Paul J. Stark
General Counsel, IEA
620 N. 6th St.
Boise, ID 83701

- U.S. Mail
- Hand Delivery
- Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested
- Overnight Mail
- Facsimile:
- Email:

*Attorney for the
Chief Certification Officer*
Robert A. Berry
Deputy Attorney General
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0010

- U.S. Mail
- Hand Delivery
- Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested
- Overnight Mail
- Facsimile: (208) 854-8073
- Email: robert.berry@ag.idaho.gov
leslie.gottsch@ag.idaho.gov



Annette Schwab
Program Specialist
Idaho State Department of Education



STATE OF IDAHO
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION
STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0027

OFFICE
650 W State Street
PHONE
(208) 332-6884
FAX
(208) 334-2228
SPEECH/HEARING IMPAIRED
(800) 377-3529

RE: Angela Edwards
Professional Standards Commission Case No. 21808

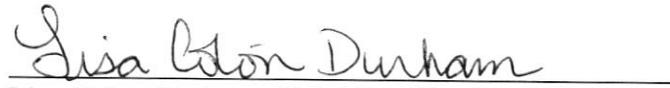
LETTER OF REPRIMAND

The Professional Standards Commission issues a formal reprimand to Angela Edwards.

The Executive Committee found that probable cause existed to warrant the filing of an administrative complaint against Ms. Edward's certificate by the Chief Certification Officer. In lieu of proceeding to hearing, Ms. Edward stipulated to discipline through this letter of reprimand based upon having hit a student on the head while attending a school sanctioned basketball when that student did not stop cheering in a manner that Ms. Edward's deemed unsportsmanlike. Ms. Edwards is hereby reprimanded for such behavior. The Chief Certification Officer is directed to issue and place this letter of reprimand in Ms. Edwards's certification file.

Dated this 19 day of November, 2018.

IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Lisa Colon Durham, Chief Certification Officer

c: Robert A. Berry, Attorney for the Chief Certification Officer