



Before the Education Practices Commission of the State of Florida

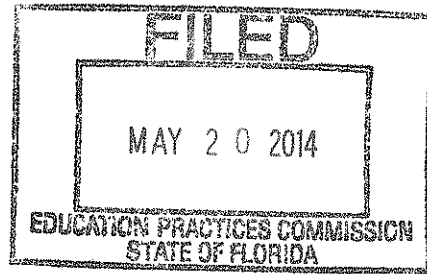
PAM STEWART as the
Commissioner of Education,

Petitioner,

vs.

KAREN LYNN DICKINSON,

Respondent.



EPC CASE N^o: 13-0417-RT

Index N^o: **14-151-FOI**

PPS N^o 112-2867

Final Order

Respondent, Karen Lynn Dickinson, holds Florida educator's certificate no. 781673. Petitioner has filed an Administrative Complaint seeking suspension, revocation, permanent revocation or other disciplinary action against the certificate. A copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached to and made a part of this Order.

Service of the Administrative Complaint was made upon Respondent by personal service. Respondent has failed to respond to the Administrative Complaint and has not requested a hearing or any other proceeding.

This cause came before a teacher panel of the Education Practices Commission on April 3, 2014, in Tampa, Florida. Respondent was neither present nor represented.

The Commission finds that Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint, has failed to respond timely, and has waived any right to request a hearing.

Since Respondent has not replied to the Administrative Complaint and has not contested the factual allegations, Petitioner offered the investigative file into evidence to prove the facts as alleged in the Administrative Complaint. The Commission finds these materials clearly and convincingly support the allegation and establish a prima facie case.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The allegations of fact in paragraphs 1 through 4 of the Administrative Complaint are adopted as findings of fact by the panel.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The conclusions of law alleged in Counts 1 through 4 of the Administrative Complaint are adopted as conclusions of law by the panel.
2. There is competent, substantial evidence to support the panel's conclusions.
3. The violations committed by Respondent warrant disciplinary action by the Education Practices Commission.

PENALTY

Upon consideration, it is ORDERED:

1. Respondent's Florida educators' certificate is hereby revoked for a period of five (5) years from the date of this Final Order.

This order shall become effective upon filing with the Clerk of the Commission.

DONE AND ORDERED, this 15th day of May, 2014



DAVID R. THOMPSON, Presiding Officer

COPIES FURNISHED TO:

Bureau of Professional Practices

Bureau of Teacher Certification

Florida Administrative Law Reports

Superintendent
Duval County Schools
1701 Prudential Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8182

Professional Standards
Duval County Schools
1701 Prudential Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8182

DOE Counsel for PPS

Lynette Norr
Assistant Attorney General

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW

A PARTY WHO IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS FINAL ORDER IS ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW PURSUANT TO SECTION 120.68, FLORIDA STATUTES. REVIEW PROCEEDINGS ARE GOVERNED BY THE FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE. SUCH PROCEEDINGS ARE COMMENCED BY FILING ONE COPY OF A NOTICE OF APPEAL WITH THE EDUCATION PRACTICES COMMISSION AND A SECOND COPY, ACCOMPANIED BY FILING FEES PRESCRIBED BY LAW, WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST DISTRICT, OR WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL IN THE APPELLATE DISTRICT WHERE THE PARTY RESIDES. THE NOTICE OF APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF RENDITION OF THIS ORDER.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Order was mailed to Karen Lynn Dickinson, [REDACTED] South, Jacksonville, Florida 32205 by Certified U.S. Mail and by electronic mail to Paul Rendleman, Assistant General Counsel, Suite 1232, Turlington Building, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400 this 20th day of May, 2014.



Gretchen Kelley Brantley, Clerk
Education Practices Commission

STATE OF FLORIDA
EDUCATION PRACTICES COMMISSION

PAM STEWART, as
Commissioner of Education,

Petitioner,

vs.

CASE NO. 112-2867

KAREN LYNN DICKINSON,

Respondent.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Petitioner, Pam Stewart, as Commissioner of Education, files this Administrative Complaint against KAREN LYNN DICKINSON. The Petitioner seeks the appropriate disciplinary sanction of the Respondent's educator's certificate pursuant to Sections 1012.315, 1012.795, and 1012.796, Florida Statutes, and pursuant to Rule 6A-10.081, Florida Administrative Code, Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida, said sanctions specifically set forth in Sections 1012.795(1) and 1012.796(7), Florida Statutes.

The Petitioner alleges:

JURISDICTION

1. The Respondent holds Florida Educator's Certificate 781673, covering the areas of English, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Reading, which is valid through June 30, 2016.
2. At all times pertinent hereto, the Respondent was employed as a Reading Teacher at Samuel W. Wolfson High School in the Duval County School District.

MATERIAL ALLEGATIONS

3. The Respondent has a lengthy documented history of unsatisfactory performance as an educator, engaging in inappropriate conduct and making inappropriate comments when interacting with students, such as:

(a) on or about October 1, 1997, The Respondent was issued a written reprimand for engaging in a physical altercation with a student that resulted in the Respondent holding

a student's nose and placing her hand around the student's neck to hold him against the wall;

(b) on or about February 1, 1999, the Respondent received a letter from her principal regarding unsatisfactory performance;

(c) during the 2007-2008 school year, the Respondent received "Needs Improvement" on her Professional Performance Evaluation in the area of Class Management;

(d) during the 2008-2009 school year, the Respondent received "Unsatisfactory" on her Professional Performance Evaluations in the area of Classroom Management;

(e) during the 2010-2011 school year, the Respondent received "Needs Improvement" on her Professional Performance Evaluations in the area of Classroom Management;

(f) on or about January 6, 2011, the Respondent was issued a written reprimand for using language toward a student that was offensive, inappropriate, demeaning and derogatory;

(g) on or about April 16, 2012, the Respondent was issued a verbal reprimand for telling the class they were lucky that she "didn't have a gun in her purse because after their behavior the prior day, she would shoot them." (sic); and

4. On or about March 27, 2012, [REDACTED] a ninth grade female student, questioned the Respondent about her grade. The Respondent told [REDACTED] to "fuck off and die." The Respondent's comment was made in the presence of other students.

The Petitioner charges:

STATUTE VIOLATIONS

COUNT 1: The Respondent is in violation of Section 1012.795(1)(d), Florida Statutes, in that Respondent has been guilty of gross immorality or an act involving moral turpitude as defined by rule of the State Board of Education.

COUNT 2: The Respondent is in violation of Section 1012.795(1)(j), Florida Statutes, in that Respondent has violated the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession prescribed by State Board of Education rules.

RULE VIOLATIONS

COUNT 3: The allegations of misconduct set forth herein are in violation of Rule 6B-1.006(3)(a), Florida Administrative Code, in that Respondent has failed to make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning and/or to the student's mental health

and/or physical health and/or safety.

COUNT 4: The allegations of misconduct set forth herein are in violation of Rule 6B-1.006(3)(e), Florida Administrative Code, in that Respondent has intentionally exposed a student to unnecessary embarrassment or disparagement.

WHEREFORE, based on the reasons set forth herein and in accordance with the Explanation of Rights and Election of Rights forms attached to and made a part of this Administrative Complaint, Petitioner respectfully recommends that the Education Practices Commission impose an appropriate sanction against the Respondent's educator's certificate pursuant to the authority provided in Sections 1012.795(1) and 1012.796(7), Florida Statutes. The sanctions imposed by the Education Practices Commission may include, but are not limited to, any one or a combination of the following: issuing the Respondent a written reprimand; placing the Respondent on probation for any period of time; restricting the Respondent's authorized scope of practice; assessing the Respondent an administrative fine; directing the Respondent to enroll in the Recovery Network Program; suspending the Respondent's educator's certificate for a period of time not to exceed five years; revoking the Respondent's educator's certificate for a period of time up to 10 years or permanently; determining the Respondent to be ineligible for certification; or barring the Respondent from reapplying for an educator's certificate for a period of time up to 10 years or permanently.

EXECUTED on this 12th day of August, 2013.



PAM STEWART, as
Commissioner of Education
State of Florida