



# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DR. TERRY BERGESON OLD CAPITOL BUILDING • PO BOX 47200 • OLYMPIA WA 98504-7200 • <http://www.k12.wa.us>

I, Mary Rufford, certify that on 2-6-01, I mailed, certified, a copy of this document, postage prepaid, to all parties or their counsel of record. I certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the state of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

IN THE MATTER OF THE EDUCATION	)	
CERTIFICATE OF	)	OPP No. D00-07-092
	)	
	)	AGREED ORDER OF
JOHN M. TAYLOR	)	STAYED SUSPENSION
Certificate No. 216483H	)	
	)	

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 suspend, with said suspension being stayed, the Washington education certificate of John M. Taylor for a minimum of thirty-six (36) months from the date of entry of the Agreed Order of Stayed Suspension, based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. John Taylor was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 216483H, on October 15, 1981. This certificate currently remains valid.

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2. John Taylor is employed by the Oakesdale School District.
  
3. On July 17, 2000, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction received a complaint letter from the Superintendent of the Oakesdale 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) 180-87, by John Taylor.
  
4. During the 1999/2000 school year John Taylor was the athletic coach for the girls softball team.
  
5. On or about May 25, 2000, John Taylor boarded a school bus to talk with a female student athlete while ignoring requests from female athletes not to come to the rear of the bus because they were changing clothes. John Taylor proceeded to the rear of the bus and gave a female athlete a side hug and then left the bus.
  
6. John Taylor made inappropriate verbal comments to a female student between December 1999 and June 2000.

7. On June 9, 2000, Principal Lisa Holmes suspended John Taylor with pay for allegations of inappropriate and unprofessional behavior.
  
8. On July 11, 2000, John Taylor was issued a written reprimand by Superintendent Melvin J. Louk for 1) making inappropriate verbal comments to a female student, 2) boarding a school bus where female athletes were changing clothes and ignoring their requests not to board the bus, and 3) for giving a female student a side hug after being instructed to refrain from physical contact with female students.
  
9. Effective July 11, 2000, Superintendent Melvin J. Louk lifted the suspension of John Taylor.
  
10. Good moral character and personal fitness is a continuing requirement to maintain a Washington education certificate.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has jurisdiction over John Taylor and over the subject matter of this action.
  
2. OSPI has shown by clear and convincing evidence that John Taylor's education certificate should be suspended as provided for in WAC 180-86-070.

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3. OSPI has determined, however, that John Taylor does meet the requirements to maintain certification with stipulations.

**ORDER**

It is hereby ordered and agreed, that the Washington education certificate of John Taylor be suspended for a minimum of thirty-six (36) months, with said suspension being stayed.

If John Taylor fails to adhere to the stipulations of this agreement, John Taylor's Washington education certificate will be suspended immediately. John Taylor will have no appeal rights to that suspension. The waiver of appeal is only to the suspension that is the subject matter of this order. It would not apply to any new disciplinary imposed or proposed to be imposed by OPP.

Relief of the stayed suspension shall be considered at the end of the thirty-six (36) months based upon the successful compliance of the following stipulations:

1. John Taylor will have no violations of WAC 180-86-013/014, WAC 180-87, or RCW 28A.410.090.

2. John Taylor must keep OPP apprised of any change in name, address, telephone number, and employment status.
  
3. Should John Taylor decide to pursue an education certificate in a state other than the state of Washington, John Taylor agrees to provide a copy of this Agreed Order of Stayed Suspension to the Department of Education in that state.
  
4. John Taylor will refrain from any physical contact with female students except in the case of a medical emergency.
  
5. John Taylor will have no similar proven allegations or repeated behavior as described in the Findings of Fact.
  
6. John Taylor will provide a copy of this agreement to their employing superintendent/administrator upon initiation of employment in any Washington public or private school district or educational service district. The superintendent/administrator will notify OPP that the agreement has been submitted.
  
7. If John Taylor's employing superintendent/administrator changes, or if John Taylor changes education employment, John Taylor's new superintendent/administrator must also be apprised of this agreement.

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8. John Taylor must respond in a timely manner to all requests by OPP, both by telephone and by correspondence.

It is understood that adherence to this Agreed Order of Stayed Suspension and fulfillment of the stipulations are the responsibility of John Taylor. John Taylor will not be prompted by OPP to carry out these duties.

Upon successful completion of the above stipulations, John Taylor may apply to lift the stayed suspension by submitting a reinstatement application, available from OPP, and having new fingerprints be checked by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Washington State Patrol.

DATED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2001 ~~October, 2000~~.

DR. TERRY BERGESON  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Washington

Stipulated to and approved for  
Entry.

By: Michael L. Bigelow  
Michael L. Bigelow  
Associate Superintendent  
Budget and School Business Services

John M. Taylor  
John M. Taylor, Respondent

William J. Powell  
Bill Powell, Attorney for Respondent  
WSBA #672