



# SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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

I, Rene Davis, certify that on 1/7/00, I mailed a copy of this document, certified & 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 CERTIFICATE  
APPLICATION OF

MARK A. TAYLOR  
Certificate No. 259001F

OPP No. A97-08-1292

AGREED ORDER OF  
REPRIMAND

COMES NOW the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), 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), OSPI, and Mark A. Taylor, that Mark Taylor shall be reprimanded based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth below:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Mark Taylor was issued a Washington Education Certificate, No. 259001F, on February 2, 1984. His certificate expired August 31, 1996.

2. Mark Taylor began his full-time educational employment with the Bethel School District in February 1990.

MARK A. TAYLOR  
AGREED ORDER OF REPRIMAND -1-

He resigned from Bethel School District on February 17, 1993, as a part of a settlement agreement with the school district.

3. On February 26, 1993, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction received a letter from the Bethel Public School Superintendent alleging unprofessional conduct by Mark Taylor. The allegations included engaging in a series of over-personal and inappropriate communications and relationships with female students, and inappropriately touching female students.

4. On March 23, 1993, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction sent Mark Taylor notification that he was under investigation by the Office of Professional Practices, based on the Bethel School District Superintendent's complaint letter.

5. Mark Taylor was employed by the Clover Park School District during the 1993-94 school year. During that time, his co-worker cautioned him about the inappropriate comments he made to students.

6. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction dismissed its case on December 30, 1997, due to the fact that Mark Taylor's education certificate expired on August 31, 1996.

7. On February 27, 1998, Mark Taylor re-applied for a Washington education certificate.

8. Mark Taylor has been issued permits, allowing him to teach, while OPP continued its investigation.

9. Mark Taylor worked for the Lake Stevens School District during the 1997-98 school year.

10. Mark Taylor was reprimanded twice by the Lake Stevens School District during the 1997-98 school year: once for an inappropriate conversation with a student where he inferred an adult may have smelled of an inappropriate substance while at a school function and once for performing a "magic trick" involving a flame in the midst of the student section of the football stadium.

11. Good moral character and personal fitness is a requirement to attain a Washington education certificate.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. OSPI has jurisdiction over Mark Taylor and over the subject matter of this action.

2. OSPI has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that Mark Taylor should be reprimanded as provided for in WAC 180-86-065.

3. Mark Taylor has violated RCW 28A.410.090, WAC 180-87, and WAC 180-86-013/014.

**ORDER**

THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered and agreed that Mark A. Taylor be reprimanded and ordered to not continue or repeat the conduct described in the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. This order will take effect upon issuance of Mark Taylor's education certificate.

DATED This 28<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2000.

DR. TERRY BERGESON  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Washington

Stipulated to and approved for  
entry

Mark A. Taylor  
Mark A. Taylor, Respondent

By: William I. Jordan  
Dr. William I. Jordan  
Deputy Superintendent  
General Administration and Operations

Doug M. Wartelle  
Doug Wartelle, Attorney for Respondent  
WSBA #25267