

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

In the matter of the certificates of:

Ronald Anthony,

Respondent

Case No. 21912

STIPULATION

BACKGROUND

The Professional Standards Commission received an allegation of unethical conduct concerning Ronald Anthony. 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 Ronald Anthony's certificate. The Executive Committee has recommended the following Stipulation.

STIPULATION

1. This is an agreement (Stipulation) between Ronald Anthony (Mr. Anthony) and the Executive Committee (the Executive Committee) of the Professional Standards Commission (the Commission).

2. If Mr. Anthony wishes to agree to this Stipulation, he must sign and return this Stipulation and any attachments to the Commission by 5:00 p.m. (Mountain Time) on or before **December 6, 2019**, unless he has been granted an extension.

3. After Mr. Anthony 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.

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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. Mr. Anthony holds or held the following certificate and endorsements issued under the authority of the Idaho State Board of Education during the relevant times:
 - a. Administrator certificate with Superintendent (Pre-K-12) and School Principal (Pre-K-12) endorsements, effective September 1, 2014, through August 31, 2019.
7. Mr. Anthony was the Superintendent for the Buhl School District beginning in the 2014-2015 school year and continuing in the subsequent school years through 2017-2018.
8. As the Superintendent and executive officer for the Buhl School District during this time, Mr. Anthony was, according to Buhl School District policy No. 412, “responsible for the administration and management of the District schools, in accordance with Board policies and directives and State and federal law.”
9. The State Department of Education (SDE) required all school districts, including the Buhl School District, to upload staff assignment data to the SDE through the Idaho System for Education Excellence (ISEE) during these years.
10. For the years at issue, the SDE provided access for Mr. Anthony to run an Assignment Credential report, based on the ISEE data.
11. Mr. Anthony would then submit the report to the SDE and the following or a substantially similar signed attestation:

I certify that I have reviewed the credential status and highly qualified teacher information (HQT) contained in this report. I attest that the information contained in this report is accurate and all supporting documentation is on file in the event of an audit. However, for any amendment that I have made here, documentation is attached to substantiate those charges.

Superintendent/Charter Administrator

Date

12. During these relevant years, Mr. Anthony would submit data (“hit the button”) for ISEE uploads regarding teachers of record; however, while certain individuals were listed as teacher of record, the individual was not involved in the education of the students in question.

13. One instance occurred at Buhl High School.

14. In the fall of 2014, a certified ESL teacher from Popplewell Elementary taught for half a day and was assisted by the paraprofessional who had been teaching the course in previous years.

15. After a few months, the ESL teacher stopped teaching at Buhl High School, thereby depriving the school of a certified instructor.

16. The Buhl High School principal informed Mr. Anthony of the problem, but Mr. Anthony stated that the ESL teacher would remain listed as the teacher of record despite no longer teaching at the high school, and the class instead being taught by the paraprofessional.

17. This practice remained the same for the next four years, except that a different certified teacher was listed as teacher of record.

18. In another instance, a math teacher at Buhl High School was listed as the teacher of record for Plato math classes in which the teacher had no interaction with or control over the class.

19. Another instance involved a math teacher who was listed as the teacher of record for a Computer Science course, but did not teach the course. Instead, the course was taught by a business education teacher who did not hold a certificate for teaching Computer Science (and therefore lacks the requisite endorsement to teach the course). In addition, another teacher of record was listed for robotics, even though it was taught by a different teacher.

20. By submitting incorrect and false teachers of record through the ISEE uploads, Mr. Anthony failed to ensure that certificated teachers were teaching appropriately and in accordance with Idaho Code § 33-1201.

21. In addition, employing an individual without a teaching certificate, but still placing the individual in a classroom to teach the class under a different teacher of record, is not in accordance with Idaho Code § 33-513 and should have resulted in withheld apportionments by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

22. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Mr. Anthony realized that the above conduct was wrong and has corrected the aforesaid conduct in the Buhl School District.

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

- a. Mr. Anthony's conduct or course of conduct willfully violated a principle of the code of ethics that was adopted by the Idaho State Board of Education. Idaho Code § 33-1208(1)(j) ("Willful violation of any professional code or standard of ethics or conduct, adopted by the state board of education"). Specifically, Mr. Anthony violated Code of Ethics Principle I (Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.02.076.02) ("A professional educator abides by all federal, state, and local education laws and statutes.").
- b. Mr. Anthony's conduct or course of conduct willfully violated a principle of the code of ethics that was adopted by the Idaho State Board of Education. Idaho Code § 33-1208(1)(j) ("Willful violation of any professional code or standard of ethics or conduct, adopted by the state

board of education”). Specifically, Mr. Anthony violated Code of Ethics Principle IV (Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.02.076.05) (“A professional educator exemplifies honesty and integrity in the course of professional practice.”).

24. Mr. Anthony admits that he violated the laws and rules cited in paragraph 23 and acknowledges that there is sufficient evidence to support a finding of a violation of the laws and rule cited in paragraph 23.

B. STIPULATED DISCIPLINE

25. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, the following discipline will be imposed by the Commission on Mr. Anthony’s certificate:

a. The Commission will issue a letter of reprimand.

26. Any costs associated with Mr. Anthony’s compliance with the terms of this Stipulation are his responsibility.

C. PRESENTATION OF THIS STIPULATION

27. Once Mr. Anthony 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.

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

29. If the Commission modifies this Stipulation, it must receive Mr. Anthony’s approval on any modification before the Stipulation is effective.

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D. WAIVER OF RIGHTS

30. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, Mr. Anthony 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.

31. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, the Commission may impose discipline upon Mr. Anthony's certificate without further process.

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

F. GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

33. This Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, and Mr. Anthony is not relying on any other agreement or representation, whether verbal or written.

34. 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.


35. Mr. Anthony agrees that he has read this Stipulation, has had the opportunity to discuss it with legal counsel, if he so chose, and understands that by signing below, he will be agreeing to the terms of this Stipulation.

SIGNATURES

Respondent

The respondent, Ronald Anthony, agrees to this Stipulation.

DATED this 26 day of November, 2019.


Ronald Anthony
Respondent

Executive Committee

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

DATED this 17th day of January, 2020.

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE


Kathy Davis, Member

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

In the matter of the certificate of:

Ronald Anthony

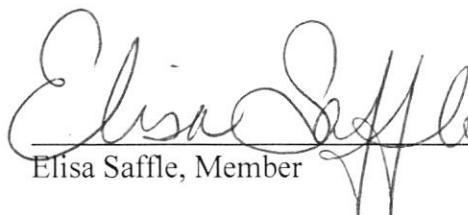
Respondent

Case No. 21912

CONSENT ORDER

The Professional Standards Commission orders that the Stipulation, entered between Ronald Anthony 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 17 day of January, 2020. The discipline listed in the Stipulation is imposed on Ronald Anthony's certificate under Idaho Code §§ 33-1208 and 33-1209. This is a final agency order, and Ronald Anthony has waived the right of judicial review.

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION



Elisa Saffle, Member

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 17th day of January, 2020, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing by the following method to:

Ronald Anthony



- 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: Ronald Anthony
Professional Standards Commission Case No. 21912

LETTER OF REPRIMAND

The Professional Standards Commission issues a formal reprimand to Ronald Anthony.

The Executive Committee found that probable cause existed to warrant the filing of an administrative complaint against Mr. Anthony's certificate by the Chief Certification Officer. In lieu of filing an answer, Mr. Anthony entered into stipulated discipline. The full Professional Standards Commission considered his case and adopted the discipline recommended by the Executive Committee, which was incorporated into the stipulated discipline. Accordingly, a letter of reprimand is now issued based upon Mr. Anthony's submission of false and incorrect teacher of record to the State of Idaho, a violation of Code of Ethics Principles I and IV. Mr. Anthony is hereby reprimanded for such behavior. The Chief Certification Officer is directed to issue and place this letter of reprimand in Mr. Anthony's certification file.

Dated this 21 day of January, 2020.

IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Lisa Colon Durham, Chief Certification Officer

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