

IN THE MATTER OF THE TEACHERS ACT, SBC 2011 c. 19

AND

IN THE MATTER CONCERNING JOSHUA FREDERICK ROLAND LAURIN



BETWEEN:

THE COMMISSIONER, APPOINTED UNDER THE *TEACHERS ACT* (the "Commissioner")

AND:

JOSHUA FREDERICK ROLAND LAURIN ("Laurin")

BACKGROUND and FACTS

- 1. Laurin held a Conditional Certification of Qualification, It was issued by the Director of Certification (the "Director") under the *Teachers Act* on September 12, 2013 and was valid from September 12, 2013 to June 30, 2018.
- 2. Laurin holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, Leave Laurin holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, Leave Lauring Profession Act on October 4, 2016, and is valid from October 4, 2016.
- 3. At all material times, Laurin was employed as a teacher teaching on call ("TOC") by School District No. 72 (Campbell River) (the "District") at a District school (the "School").
- 4. On January 8, 2019, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Laurin, under section 16 of the *School Act*.

- 5. The following events occurred on November 6, 2018, when Laurin was a TOC for a Grade 8 class at the School:
 - a. While accompanying students on a field trip, Laurin made comments which were overheard by some students. These comments included the following:
 - i. Laurin said that he did not like his job or being around kids.
 - ii. Laurin said that he liked Grade 8 because he could leave students with worksheets and then leave them to it.
 - iii. Laurin said that he would like to use one of the students on the field trip to beat two other students to death and to injure a third one.
 - iv. Laurin said that he wanted to use one of the students to "whack" two others.
 - b. After the field trip, when the students were back in their classroom, Laurin commented that if he was going to die the following day, he would want to hurt students as he would not then get into any trouble.
 - c. Some students who heard these comments described them as "weird" and reported feeling shocked by them, although they thought that Laurin was joking.
- 6. On November 8, 2018, the District issued Laurin a letter of discipline and suspended him from the TOC list from December 3 until December 21, 2018. The District also required Laurin to complete the following course offered by the Justice Institute of BC: *Reinforcing Professional Boundaries*. Laurin completed this course in March, 2019.
- 7. On April 5, 2019, the Commissioner considered this matter and determined to propose a consent resolution agreement to Laurin, in accordance with section 53(1)(a) of the *Teachers Act*.

CONSEQUENCES

- 8. This Agreement is made under section 53 of the *Teachers Act*.
- 9. Laurin understands and acknowledges that this Agreement is not effective until executed by the Commissioner, and that the date of execution by the Commissioner will be the effective date of this Agreement (the "Effective Date").
- 10. Laurin admits that the facts set out in paragraphs 1 to 6 of this Agreement are true.

- 11. Laurin admits that the conduct described in paragraph 5 of this Agreement constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standards #1 and #2 of the Standards for the Education, Competence and Professional Conduct of Educators in British Columbia, Fourth Edition, January 2012.
- 12. Laurin agrees to a one-day suspension of his certificate of qualification under sections 53 and 64(b) of the *Teachers Act*. The suspension will occur on October 24, 2019.
- 13. In determining that a one-day suspension is an appropriate consequence, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
 - Laurin has completed the JIBC course required by the District.
 - b. The District suspended Laurin from the TOC list for three weeks.
 - Laurin failed to appreciate how his comments might be interpreted by students.
- 14. Laurin agrees not to make any statement orally or in writing which contradicts, disputes or calls into question the terms of this Agreement or the admissions made in it.

EFFECT OF THE AGREEMENT

- The Director of Certification will record the terms of this Agreement on the Teacher Regulation Branch's online registry under section 79(d) of the Teachers Act.
- 16. Laurin acknowledges that this Agreement will be published in accordance with section 54 of the *Teachers Act*, which includes posting the Agreement, in full, on the following website: www.bcteacherregulation.ca.
- Notification of this Agreement will be made in accordance with section 55 of the Teachers Act.
- 18. Laurin acknowledges and understands that if the Commissioner has reason to believe that he has breached any term of this Agreement:
 - a. the Commissioner may initiate an investigation under section 47(1)(b) of the *Teachers Act* into his conduct; and
 - b. the conduct and matters described in the "Background and Facts" to this Agreement are admissible in that inquiry as proof that Laurin has admitted to the conduct and matters set out in this Agreement.

19. Laurin acknowledges that he has voluntarily entered into this Agreement after being advised of his right to obtain independent legal advice, and that he fully understands the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement

Signed in Prince (rearge B.C. this 6 day of september, 2019.

Joshua Frederick Roland Laurin

Signed in Vancouve, B.C. this 22 day of October, 2019.

Howard L. Kushner, Commissioner