

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

#### AND

# IN THE MATTER CONCERNING EDWARD JOSEPH BOLANOS DELA LUNA

#### CONSENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

#### BETWEEN:

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

#### AND:

EDWARD JOSEPH BOLANOS DELA LUNA ("Dela Luna")

#### BACKGROUND and FACTS

- 1. Dela Luna holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, No. Let us issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on February 4, 2000, is valid from January 1, 2000, and was continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
- 2. At all material times, Dela Luna was employed as an elementary teacher, by Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese (the "Authority") at one of its elementary schools (the "School").
- 3. On April 5, 2019, the Authority made a report to the Commissioner regarding Dela Luna, under section 7 of the *Independent Schools Act*.
- 4. In March 2019, Dela Luna breached professional boundaries when he invited a student to come to his boardgame club during spring break to play board games. The student's

mother consented to this invitation. The boardgame club was located in a common area of Dela Luna's condominium building. Dela Luna intended this invitation to be a reward to the student for the student's academic achievement and improved behavior. Dela Luna retracted the invitation at the direction of an administrator at the School, before any visit occurred.

- 5. On April 3, 2019, the District disciplined Dela Luna by issuing him a letter of discipline and requiring him to complete the course *Reinforcing Respectful Professional Boundaries* at the Justice Institute of BC.
- 6. On August 25, 2020, the Commissioner considered this matter and determined to propose a consent resolution agreement to Dela Luna, in accordance with section 53(1)(a) of the *Teachers Act*.

### CONSEQUENCES

- 7. This Agreement is made under section 53 of the *Teachers Act*.
- 8. Dela Luna 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").
- 9. Dela Luna admits that the facts set out in paragraphs 1 to 5 of this Agreement are true.
- 10. Dela Luna admits that the conduct described in paragraph 4 of this Agreement constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standard #1 of the Standards for the Education, Competence and Professional Conduct of Educators in British Columbia, Fourth Edition, January 2012.
- 11. Dela Luna agrees to a two-day suspension under sections 53 and 64(b) of the *Teachers Act*, which will occur on November 24 and 25, 2020.
- 12. Dela Luna also agrees under section 64(f) and (h) of the *Teachers Act* that by September 30, 2021, (the "Condition Date"):
  - a. He will successfully complete the course *Reinforcing Respectful Professional Boundaries* through the Justice Institute of British Columbia (the "Course") and provide satisfactory proof of completion to the Commissioner by the Condition Date.

- b. If Dela Luna does not successfully complete the Course by the Condition Date, he will immediately advise the Commissioner in writing of the reason(s) he has not successfully completed it and set out the date by which he proposes to do so, at which time the Commissioner may extend the Condition Date to a later date (the "Extended Date").
- c. If Dela Luna fails to provide satisfactory proof of completion of the Course by the later of the Condition Date or the Extended Date, the Commissioner may require the Director of Certification ("the Director") to suspend Dela Luna's certificate of qualification under section 64(f) of the *Teachers Act*, until such time as he successfully completes the Course.
- 13. In determining that a suspension and completion of the Course are appropriate consequences, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
  - Dela Luna's conduct showed a lack of understanding of appropriate professional boundaries;
  - b. his conduct had the effect of treating students inequitably; and
  - c. Dela Luna has been previously disciplined for interacting with students inappropriately.
- Dela Luna 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

- 15. The Director of Certification will record the terms of this Agreement on the Ministry of Education's online registry under section 79(d) of the *Teachers Act*.
- 16. Dela Luna 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: <a href="www.teacherregulation.gov.bc.ca">www.teacherregulation.gov.bc.ca</a>.
- 17. Notification of this Agreement will be made in accordance with section 55 of the *Teachers Act*.
- 18. A breach by Dela Luna of any term in this Agreement may constitute professional misconduct which may be the subject of separate discipline proceedings.

- 19. Dela Luna 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 Dela Luna has admitted to the conduct and matters set out in this Agreement.
- 20. Dela Luna acknowledges that he has voluntarily entered into this Agreement with the benefit of independent legal advice, and that he fully understands the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement.

Signed in Vancouver, B.C. this Z day of Navember, 2020.	Edward Joseph Bolanos Dela Luna
Signed in, B.C. this _10day of, November, 2020.	Howard L. Kushner, Commissioner