



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

AND

IN THE MATTER CONCERNING

JOHN PETER ROCCA

██████████

CONSENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN:

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

AND:

JOHN PETER ROCCA
(“Rocca”)

BACKGROUND and FACTS

1. Rocca held a Professional Certificate of Qualification, No. ██████████. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on June 1, 1991, was valid from January 1, 1988, and was continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
2. Rocca relinquished his certificate of qualification on August 24, 2021.
3. At all material times, Rocca was employed as a secondary school teacher by School District No. 42 Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows (the “District”) at a District school (the “School”).
4. On August 18, 2021, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Rocca, under section 16 of the *School Act*.

5. The following events occurred:
 - a. Student A was a student in the School. Rocca had taught Student A math in Grades 7 (2018/2019), 8 (2019/2020) and 9 (2020/2021).
 - b. When Student A was in Grade 7, Rocca interrupted a lesson he was teaching to comment to another student about what Student A was wearing and how Student A looked. Rocca would give Student A “fist bumps” and would also sometimes put his hand around Student A’s waist, or on Student A’s shoulder.
 - c. When Student A was in Grade 8, Rocca would approach Student A at Student A’s locker where he would sometimes lean against Student A’s shoulder or put an arm around Student A’s shoulders. Rocca would also ask Student A about Student A’s personal life.
 - d. Rocca made comments to students that “older men are better” which is “why girls like older men” when reprimanding two male students about their immature behaviour and referred to female students as being “small”, “adorable”, “sweet” and “cute”.
 - e. When Student A was in Grade 9, Rocca made a joke in front of the class that if he won the lottery, he would start a school in Hawaii and bring his favourite students, the only one of whom in that class being Student A.
 - f. On January 20, 2021, when Student A was in Grade 9, Rocca hit Student A on the thigh with a rolled-up paper as he walked by, making Student A feel uncomfortable.
 - g. Student B was also in Rocca’s Grade 9 class in the 2020/2021 year. Rocca asked Student B personal questions about Student B’s family, as he had previously taught Student B’s father, and about Student B’s post-secondary plans. On multiple occasions, Rocca came up behind Student B and placed a hand on Student B’s shoulders. Rocca once said to Student B: “can you smile? You should smile more, you have such a nice smile.”
 - h. Student C was also a student in Rocca’s Grade 9 class. Rocca would get very close when speaking to Student C and told Student C “oh you’re like a model”, as he balanced papers on Student C’s head.
6. On May 21, 2021, Rocca retired from the District, effective July 1, 2021.
7. Concerns about boundaries issues have been previously raised with Rocca as follows:
 - a. On April 30, 2003, the District issued Rocca a letter of discipline following

- allegations that he had made unnecessary physical contact with female students and made comments to them of a personal nature, making them feel uncomfortable. The District suspended Rocca for five days without pay. Rocca agreed to conditions upon his return to work, including that he would not touch female students.
- b. On September 12, 2001, the District issued Rocca a written reprimand following allegations that he had loaned his car to an unlicensed student. This student took two other students in Rocca's car and left the school. The student was subsequently involved in a motor vehicle accident which resulted in minor injuries to all three students in the car.
 - c. In 1998, the District Assistant Superintendent spoke with Rocca, and told him that he should not give rides to female students after basketball practices or games.
 - d. In 1988, Rocca's previous employer, School District No. 35 (Langley) suspended Rocca without pay pending an investigation into allegations that he had engaged in improper touching of students and that he had used offensive language. As Rocca resigned from School District No. 35, the investigation was not completed.
- 8. On October 6, 2021, the Commissioner ordered an investigation under section 47(1) of the *Teachers Act*.
 - 9. On November 7, 2023, the Commissioner considered this matter and determined to propose a consent resolution agreement to Rocca, in accordance with section 53(1)(a) of the *Teachers Act*.

CONSEQUENCES

- 10. This Agreement is made under section 53 of the *Teachers Act*.
- 11. Rocca 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").
- 12. Rocca admits that the facts set out in paragraphs 1 to 8 of this Agreement are true.
- 13. Rocca admits that the conduct described in paragraph 5 of this Agreement constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standard #1 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators*, June 2019.
- 14. Rocca agrees that for a period of one year from the Effective Date, he will not apply for,

and understands the Director of Certification (the “Director”) will be required not to issue to him a certificate of qualification, an independent school teaching certificate or any other authorization to teach in the kindergarten to grade 12 education system under section 64(g) of the *Teachers Act*, or any successor legislation.

15. In determining that a one-year ban on reapplication is an appropriate consequence, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
 - a. Rocca failed to create a positive learning environment;
 - b. Rocca caused physical and emotional harm to students; and
 - c. Rocca engaged in a repeated pattern of similar conduct.
16. Rocca 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

17. The Director of Certification will record the terms of this Agreement on the online registry of the Ministry of Education and Child Care, under section 79(d) of the *Teachers Act*.
18. Rocca 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: <https://teacherregulation.gov.bc.ca>
19. If Rocca applies for a certificate of qualification, an independent school teaching certificate, or other authorization to teach in the kindergarten to grade twelve education system after expiry of the period set out in paragraph 14, it is agreed, without limiting any other power of the Director to determine Rocca’s fitness and suitability to be granted a certificate of qualification, independent school teaching certificate or letter of permission, that the Director may consider:
 - a. the facts set out and admitted in this Agreement;
 - b. any document or other evidence gathered or prepared by the Branch or the College in any investigation of this matter; and
 - c. any evidence of breach by Rocca of one or more terms of this Agreement.

20. Rocca 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 Coguellem, B.C.
this 9 day of May, 2025.


John Peter Rocca

Signed in New Westminster, B.C.
this 28th day of May, 2025.


Donnaree Nygard, Acting Commissioner