



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

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER CONCERNING**

**A TEACHER**



**CONSENT RESOLUTION SUMMARY**

*This summary is published under section 54(3) of the Teachers Act to protect the identity of a student who was harmed, abused or exploited by the teacher.*

1. The Teacher holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, No [REDACTED]. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on June 20, 1997, is valid from September 1, 1997 and was continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
2. At all material times, the Teacher was employed as a high school teacher by a school district in B.C (the “District”).
3. In 2017, the District made a report to the Commissioner about the Teacher under section 16 of the *School Act*.
4. During the 2016/2017 school year, the Teacher engaged in boundary violations with one of their students (“Student A”). This included:
  - a. describing Student A as being a favourite, and complimenting them on their looks and intelligence;
  - b. appointing Student A as a tutor in one of the Teacher’s classes, even though Student A was not strong in that subject;
  - c. engaging with Student A on social media, and exchanging messages with them about their friendship with a classmate;
  - d. discussing personal issues with Student A in the manner of a friend, and not a teacher;



- e. comforting Student A during a crisis by being alone with them in a room and hugging them;
  - f. allowing Student A and one of their friends to accompany the Teacher on a personal errand; and
  - g. allowing Student A to drive the Teacher on at least three occasions.
5. On June 7, 2017, the District issued the Teacher a letter of discipline and required them to complete a boundaries course, which they did on August 1, 2018.
6. On [REDACTED] the Teacher entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner in which they agreed that their conduct described in paragraph 4 above 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.
7. The Teacher agreed to a 30-day suspension of their certificate of qualification under sections 53 and 64(b) of the *Teachers Act*.
8. In determining that a 30-day suspension is an appropriate consequence, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
- a. the Teacher failed on a number of occasions to maintain professional and appropriate boundaries in their interactions with a student;
  - b. the Teacher engaged in inappropriate communications with a student on social media; and
  - c. the Teacher established a parental relationship with a student.