



BRITISH COLUMBIA
COMMISSIONER FOR
TEACHER REGULATION

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

AND

IN THE MATTER CONCERNING

A TEACHER



SUMMARY OF CONSENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

This summary is published under section 54(3) of the Teachers Act to protect the identity of students who were harmed, abused or exploited by the Teacher.

1. The Teacher holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on September 29, 2004, is valid from September 1, 2004, and was continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
2. At all material times, the Teacher was employed as a counsellor by a School District in B.C. (the “District”) at a District school (the “School”).
3. On September 20, 2022, the District made a report to the Commissioner about the Teacher, under section 16 of the *School Act*.
4. The following events occurred:
 - a. The Teacher counselled two students at the School who were vulnerable.
 - b. The Teacher spent a significant amount of time with the students who grew increasingly attached to the Teacher and saw the Teacher almost daily, often on an informal basis when they should otherwise have been in classes. The School principal had conversations with the Teacher about the students needing to go back to class.
 - c. The Teacher did not take steps to address the level of attachment the students had developed.

- d. Over a period of approximately seven months, the Teacher began exchanging text messages with the students with some frequency, including after hours and at night, and without the knowledge of the students' parents. At one point, the Teacher directed one of the students to delete the text messages which they had exchanged.
 - e. One evening when the Teacher was texting with one of the students, the student indicated that they might harm themselves. The Teacher did not take appropriate reporting steps to address the risk of self-harm.
5. On September 14, 2022, the District issued the Teacher a letter of discipline and suspended the Teacher for nine days without pay. In addition, the Teacher was transferred to a different school for the remainder of the school year, was required to complete the BCTF workshop, *Professional Boundary Issues: Teacher/Student Relationships*, and must undergo a teaching evaluation for the 2022/2023 school year. The Teacher may not reapply for a position at the School.
6. On [REDACTED] the Teacher entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner, in which the Teacher admitted that the conduct set out in paragraph 4 constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standard #1 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators* (June 2019).
7. In the consent resolution agreement, the Teacher agreed to two-week suspension of their certificate of qualification and a requirement that they complete the course, *Reinforcing Respectful Professional Boundaries* by August 30, 2023.
8. In determining that a two-week suspension and course requirement are appropriate consequences, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
- a. The Teacher failed to maintain appropriate professional boundaries with the students, causing them emotional harm.
 - b. The Teacher failed to take appropriate reporting steps when one of the students disclosed a risk of self harm.
 - c. Both of these students were vulnerable.

9. The Teacher agreed that they will not make any statement orally or in writing which contradicts, disputes or calls into question the terms of the consent resolution agreement or the admissions made in it.