



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 anonymously 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 held a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, that was issued under the *Teachers Act* on November 24, 2016 and was valid from that day. On September 21, 2022, the Teacher relinquished his Certificate of Qualification.
2. At all material times, the Teacher was employed as a high school teacher by a School District (the “District”) in British Columbia.
3. On June 8, 2020, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding the Teacher, under section 16 of the *School Act*.
4. During the 2019-2020 school year, while the Teacher was teaching at a high school in the District, he breached appropriate professional boundaries by contacting and communicating with students on social media and making inappropriate comments to them in these exchanges, including by telling students to keep this communication secret.
5. During the 2019-2020 school year, the Teacher met individual students on multiple occasions, alone in his office and with the door shut. In most of these one-on-one meetings, the student was upset and the Teacher talked with these students about the student’s personal matters, including about their family or other relationships. On a few occasions, the Teacher placed his hand on a student’s hand, knee or thigh. The Teacher was aware from these discussions that some of the students had significant personal issues, but he did not direct any of them to a School counsellor nor advise a School counsellor or administration about his discussions with any of these students.

6. The District disciplined the Teacher by suspending him for 15 days. It also required him to complete remedial learning to improve his understanding and practice regarding professional boundaries.
7. In [REDACTED] the Teacher entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner in which the Teacher admitted that his conduct summarized in paragraphs 4 and 5 above constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standards #1 and #2 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators*, June 2019. The Teacher agreed to a two month suspension of his Certificate of Qualification.
8. In determining that a two-month suspension is an appropriate consequence, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
 - a. the Teacher failed to maintain appropriate professional boundaries in several different ways, despite being aware that some of this conduct was not appropriate; and
 - b. his conduct occurred with more than one student and over a significant period of time.