



**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, which excludes certain details 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. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on December 17, 1990, is valid from September 1, 1990, and was continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
2. At all material times, the Teacher was employed as a teacher at a school (the “School”) in a school district (the “District”).
3. On May 29, 2023, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding the Teacher, under section 16 of the *School Act* indicating that as a result of a District investigation, on May 25, 2023, the District disciplined the Teacher by:
  - a. Suspending the Teacher for seven (7) days without pay; and
  - b. Requiring the Teacher to attend the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) course “Reinforcing Respectful Professional Boundaries” which the Teacher completed in March of 2023.
4. The following events took place:
  - a. The Teacher taught Student A at the School.
  - b. The Teacher communicated regularly with Student A about personal, non-school

- related matters, outside of school hours from the summer of 2022 to the end of February 2023.
- c. The Teacher hugged Student A on two occasions.
  - d. Student A confided in the Teacher and shared personal information regarding Student A's family life and other difficulties.
  - e. Student A's parents asked the Teacher to stop communicating with Student A about personal matters that were not school related, and which were outside of school hours.
  - f. The Teacher did not stop communicating with Student A until approximately 10 days after being asked to do so.
5. The Teacher entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner, in which the Teacher admitted the conduct set out in paragraph 4 constitutes professional misconduct under section 63 of the *Teachers Act* and is contrary to Standard #1 and Standard #4 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators*, June 2019. The Teacher agreed to a three-day suspension of his certificate of qualification under sections 53 and 64(b) of the *Teachers Act*.
6. In determining that a three-day suspension and completion of the course required by the District were appropriate consequences, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
- a. The Teacher failed to maintain appropriate boundaries in his communication and interactions with Student A;
  - b. The Teacher failed to take appropriate steps to manage the well-being of Student A;
  - c. The Teacher undermined Student A's family trust and confidence in the educational system by disregarding the family's request to stop communicating with Student A about non-school related matters and communication outside of school hours;
  - d. The Teacher accepted responsibility for his conduct.