

FEB. 09 2011

IOWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS

In the matter of:)	BoEE Case No. 10-21
)	
ERIC THOMPSON,)	STIPULATION
(Folder # 972368))	and
Respondent.)	ORDER
)	

In accordance with the provisions of Iowa Code sections 17A.12(5) and 272.2(4) (2011) and 282 IAC 11.4(6), and with full knowledge of his right to demand a formal hearing before the Board upon the pending complaint prior to the imposition of sanction upon his license, the Respondent expressly waives the right to a disciplinary hearing and notifies the Board of his desire to resolve the pending complaint through means of informal disposition.

The Respondent concedes the jurisdiction of the Board for all issues relevant hereto and voluntarily consents to the State's counsel presenting this agreement to the Board with the terms provided. If the Board does not accept the terms of this agreement, the disciplinary hearing will be rescheduled and the stipulations contained herein are not binding upon the Respondent and will not be presented against him at the time of hearing without further agreement of the Respondent.

Board approval of this settlement shall constitute resolution of this matter and will be entered as a FINAL ORDER of the Board.

STIPULATIONS

1. The Respondent holds a Master Educator License (FOLDER # 972368) with endorsements to teach 5-12 Social Sciences. Respondent's license is current and will next expire on December 31, 2011.
2. The Respondent began employment with Cedar Rapids Community Schools as a high school social studies teacher on August 11, 2006. Respondent has since resigned.
3. On April 5, 2010, a Complaint was filed with the Board alleging that Respondent had inappropriate contact with a student.
4. During the investigation, it was discovered that the student came to Respondent's residence on three occasions, Respondent and the student hugged and kissed on three occasions, and Respondent exchanged emails with the student that were inappropriate for a teacher-student relationship.
5. On August 13, 2010, the Board found probable cause to file charges alleging that Respondent had committed student abuse by soliciting, encouraging, or consummating a romantic or otherwise inappropriate relationship with a student, in violation of Board rule 282 Iowa Admin Code 25.3(1)(e)(4).

6. In order to resolve this matter without proceeding to hearing, the Respondent is willing to accept a **SUSPENSION** of his practitioner licenses for a period of **FIVE YEARS**, effective upon approval of this Stipulation and Order. Prior to application for reinstatement, Respondent shall undergo an assessment for boundary issues with students and successfully comply with any and all recommendations for treatment and training resulting from the assessment. The assessment shall be performed by a licensed mental health professional approved by the Board and at Respondent's own expense. Respondent shall provide the Board with a written report from the board-approved mental health professional detailing the assessment and successful completion of treatment/training before submitting an application for reinstatement.

LICENSEE DECLARATION

I understand that this settlement agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and will have no force or effect if it is not accepted by the Board.

I agree to comply with the requirements set forth in the stipulations and understand that my failure to do so will result in the indefinite suspension of my teaching license.

I understand that the Notice of Hearing and Stipulation and Order are public records which will become part of my permanent licensure file and will be available for public inspection and reproduction.

I understand that my name will be added to the national clearinghouse database kept by the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC).

2-7-2011
Date

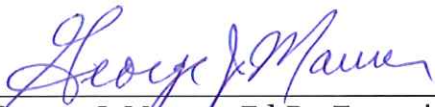

Eric Thompson, Respondent

ORDER

IT IS THE FINAL ORDER OF THE IOWA BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS that:

1. Respondent's conduct constitutes clear violations of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics governing the teaching profession.
2. In determining the appropriate sanction to impose in this case, the Board has considered the nature and seriousness of the violations as well as mitigating circumstances such as Respondent's lengthy and successful teaching career.
3. The practitioner's license of Eric Thompson, folder number 972368, is hereby **SUSPENDED** for **FIVE YEARS** from the date of this Order. Additionally, prior to application for reinstatement, Respondent shall undergo an assessment for boundary issues with students and successfully comply with any and all recommendations for treatment and training resulting from the assessment. The assessment shall be performed by a licensed mental health professional approved by the Board and at Respondent's own expense. Respondent shall provide the Board with a written report from the board-approved mental health professional detailing the assessment and successful completion of treatment/training before submitting an application for reinstatement.
4. The Respondent may make application for reinstatement of his practitioner license, pursuant to the terms of 282 I.A.C. 11.34, at the conclusion of the suspension period.

Dated this 11th day of March, 2011.



George J. Maurer, Ed.D., Executive Director
Iowa Board of Educational Examiners

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