

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,	:	
Petitioner,	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	PSPC DOCKET NO. DI-17-090
THOMAS MCCONKEY,	:	
Respondent.	:	

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

This matter is before the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (“Commission”) upon the Department of Education’s (“Department”) April 25, 2019 Motion for Entry of Order, which seeks approval of the parties’ Settlement Agreement.

Respondent holds an Instructional II Pennsylvania teaching certificate in the areas of Safety Ed/Driver Ed 7-12 and English 7-12. Respondent worked for the Keystone Oaks School District (“District”) from 1997-2010 and has been employed as a teacher at Careers in Sports High School in New York since 2011.

On August 9, 2017, the Department filed a Notice of Charges with the Commission alleging that Respondent engaged in inappropriate use of a District computer and charging him with immorality, negligence, and incompetency. The parties have entered into a Settlement Agreement, whereby they agree to resolve all matters contained in the Notice of Charges with a retroactive suspension of Respondent’s educator certification and employment eligibility beginning on July 1, 2010 and ending on December 31, 2010. The Department urges the Commission to approve the Settlement Agreement.

The Commission will approve a settlement agreement if the Commission deems it to be fair and just and the interests of all the parties and the public interest have been considered. In the instant case, after careful consideration of the Department’s Motion for Entry of Order and the parties’ Settlement Agreement, the Commission finds that a retroactive suspension is

a proportionate and reasonable settlement of the disciplinary charges and, accordingly, enters the following:

ORDER

AND NOW, this 17th day of May 2019, upon consideration of the Department's Motion for Entry of Order, it is hereby ORDERED that the Motion for Entry of Order is GRANTED and the Department of Education is hereby directed to SUSPEND the educator certification and employment eligibility to serve as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member THOMAS MCCONKEY beginning on July 1, 2010 and ending on December 31, 2010 in accordance with the foregoing Memorandum and the parties' Settlement Agreement. This Order is effective IMMEDIATELY.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND
PRACTICES COMMISSION

By:



Myron Yoder
Chairperson Pro Tempore

Attest:



Shane F. Crosby
Executive Director

Date Mailed: May 17, 2019