

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

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
Petitioner,**

v.

**SAMUEL KARAS,
Respondent.**

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PSPC DOCKET NO. DI-20-040

ORDER ACCEPTING SURRENDER

This matter is before the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (“Commission”) on the Department of Education’s (“Department”) Motion for Entry of Order (“the Motion”). The Motion requests that the Commission accept the surrender of the certificate and employment eligibility of Samuel Karas (“Respondent”). The Commission heard the Motion at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 14, 2020. After careful consideration, the Commission enters this Order accepting Respondent’s surrender.

BACKGROUND

Respondent currently holds an Instructional I Pennsylvania teaching certificate in the area of Technology Education PK-12. At all relevant times, Respondent was employed by the Pittsburgh School District as a technology education teacher.

On June 16, 2020, the Department filed a Notice of Charges alleging that Respondent had inappropriate communications and interactions with a student.

On August 7, 2020, Respondent signed an Affidavit agreeing to surrender his certificate and employment eligibility. (Motion for Entry of Order, Ex. 2). On August 27, 2020, the Department filed a Motion for Entry of Order requesting that the Commission accept Respondent’s surrender in lieu of further disciplinary proceedings.

SURRENDER

Pursuant to the Act, surrender shall mean the termination by consent of a certificate or employment eligibility. 24 P.S. § 2070.1b. Surrender of a certificate or employment eligibility constitutes discipline. Id. The Act authorizes the Commission to accept the surrender of Respondent's certificate and employment eligibility.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 28th day of September 2020, upon consideration of the Motion for Entry of Order filed by the Department of Education, it is hereby Ordered:

1. The Motion is granted, and the Commission accepts the surrender of Respondent's Instructional I certificate and his eligibility to be employed as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member.
2. Respondent's Instructional I certificate and his eligibility to be employed as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member are, therefore, terminated effective on the date of this Order.
3. The acceptance by the Commission of the surrender of Respondent's certificate and employment eligibility shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent.
4. Respondent is not eligible to be employed in a school entity in a position requiring certification or as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member, or eligible for any certificate until his certificate or employment eligibility is reinstated in accordance with the Act.

5. The Notice of Charges filed against Respondent is resolved.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND
PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 

Myron Yoder
Chairperson Pro Tempore



Attest:

Shane F. Crosby
Executive Director

Date Mailed: September 28, 2020