

Cathryn Coop
Suspension – 2 Years

The Background:

Facts: Ms. Coop was reported by Bedford County Schools for having alcohol on school grounds. Specifically, a beer can was found in Ms. Coop's classroom refrigerator, and beer bottle caps were found in her desk drawer. Empty beer cans were also found in the school dumpster that were allegedly removed from Ms. Coop's classroom prior to the search. After these items were located, the principal and superintendent interviewed Ms. Coop. During that interview, there were no indicators that Ms. Coop had been drinking or was under the influence of any substance. Ms. Coop was suspended pending an investigation, and she ultimately resigned from her teaching position the next day on November 1, 2018.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to suspend her educator license based upon these findings. Respondent received said notice.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license suspension pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3)(c), (3)(g), (3)(h), (5)(a)(2)(i), (5)(a)(2)(ii), and (5)(a)(8).

The Board staff recommends that the Board approve the signed Consent Order submitted by the Respondent for the suspension of her license.