
Jonathan Crowder
Suspension, Two (2)-Months Concurrent with Kentucky

The Background:

Prior History: N/A

Facts: On April 8, 2024, the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board accepted and entered an Agreed Order with Mr. Crowder to suspend his Kentucky educator's license effective August 19, 2023, through October 17, 2023, for allegedly consuming alcohol on school premises. Respondent is required to complete a "comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment" prior to the reinstatement of his Kentucky license.

Applicable Law

/Rule: 0520-02-03-.09(1)(k) defines "Other Good Cause" as conduct that calls into question the fitness of an educator to hold a license including, but not limited to, violation of any provision in the Teacher Code of Ethics as contained in T.C.A. §§ 49- 5-1001, et seq.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(c) provides that the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator's license for being on school premises, school property, at a school-related activity involving students, or on official school business, while possessing, consuming, or under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(h) provides that the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator's license for denial, formal reprimand, suspension, or revocation of a license or certificate in another jurisdiction for reasons which would justify denial, formal reprimand, suspension, or revocation under this rule.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(i) provides that the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator's license for Other good cause as defined in subparagraph (1)(k) of this rule.

0520-02-03-.09(5)(a)(3)(i) provides an individual holding an educator's license who is found to be in possession of, consuming, or under the influence of alcohol, or illegal substances while on school premises or property when children are present shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of suspension for not less than one (1) year up to and including revocation.

0520-02-03-.09(5)(a)(9) provides that an individual holding an educator's license who is found to have violated the Teacher Code of Ethics contained in T.C.A. Title 49, Chapter 5,

Part 10 shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a formal reprimand up to and including revocation.

T.C.A. § 49-5-1003(b)(18) provides educators shall refrain from the use of alcohol while on school or LEA premises or during a school activity at which students are present.

T.C.A. § 49-5-1004(c)(2) provides educators shall conduct themselves in a manner that preserves the dignity and integrity of the education profession.

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

Board Action Consistency Considerations:

May 2024 – Board approved the suspension of an educator's license, concurrent with their suspension in another jurisdiction.

August 2023 – Board approved the suspension of an educator's license, concurrent with their suspension in another jurisdiction.

February 2023 – Board approved the suspension of an educator's license, concurrent with their suspension in another jurisdiction.

The Recommendation:

Board counsel recommends the Board approve the signed Consent Order submitted by the Respondent for the suspension of Respondent's license concurrent with the suspension of his Kentucky teaching license, with reinstatement contingent upon Respondent completing an alcohol rehabilitation program, based upon the facts and applicable rule noted above.