

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 ) License No. 000247476  
 CATHRYN COOP )

**CONSENT ORDER**

By agreement of the Tennessee State Board of Education ("Board") and Cathryn Coop ("Respondent"), this matter is disposed of, pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3) and (5) as follows:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. At all times pertinent hereto, Respondent was a licensed educator in the State of Tennessee.
2. Bedford County Schools reported that, during October 2018, Respondent was in possession of alcohol on school premises.
3. Specifically, Respondent is alleged to have had a can of beer in her mini-fridge in her classroom and beer bottle caps in her desk drawer.
4. Respondent was suspended indefinitely by Bedford County Schools on October 31, 2018.
5. Respondent resigned from Bedford County Schools on October 31, 2018.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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

**ORDER**

The Tennessee State Board of Education hereby orders, and Respondent agrees to the following:

1. Respondent's Tennessee educator license shall be **suspended for two (2) years**. The period of suspension begins on October 31, 2018, and ends on October 31, 2020.
2. Respondent shall submit proof of her completion of an alcohol treatment program, with the date of completion being after October 31, 2018, prior to her Tennessee educator license status being changed from "SBE Review" to "Active."
3. During the period of suspension, Respondent shall not serve as a volunteer or be employed as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher or in any other position in a public school in the State of Tennessee.

4. During the period of suspension, Respondent shall take any courses necessary and pay any fees necessary to maintain a current educator license.
5. Respondent's license shall be reinstated provided the above conditions are met.
6. Approval of this Consent Order by the Board shall in no way be construed as condoning the Respondent's conduct and shall not be construed as a waiver of any of the lawful rights possessed by the Board.
7. This Consent Order shall not become effective until approved by the Board.
8. Respondent must always answer affirmatively to the question on licensure applications regarding having been suspended, denied, or revoked.
9. Respondent acknowledges that she has read this Consent Order and that she understands its contents.
10. Respondent understands that there is a right to a hearing in this matter, and Respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives such right by entering into this Consent Order.
11. Respondent understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved by the Board.
12. Respondent further understands and agrees that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order.
13. Respondent further understands that this Consent Order, once approved, shall constitute a public record that may be disseminated as a disciplinary action of the Board, which includes, but is not limited to reporting this action to the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Educator and Certification ("NASDTEC") and posting on the Board website pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 49-1-302(p), (q).
14. If this Consent Order is not approved by the Board, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding, or prejudice the ability of the Board to adjudicate this matter.
15. The Respondent hereby consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

CONSENTED TO:

Cathryn Blue Coop  
 Cathryn Coop  
 Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed  
 before me this 10<sup>th</sup> day  
 of December, 2019.

Jennifer M Dougherty  
 NOTARY PUBLIC  
 My commission expires:

4-15-2020



Approved by the Board this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020.

TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION

BY:



Lillian Hartgrove, Chair

ATTEST:



Sara Morrison, Executive Director

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020.



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NOTARY PUBLIC

After entry, a copy of this Order will be mailed to Respondent's last known address:

Cathryn Coop  
281 Farrar Rd.  
Shelbyville, TN 37160