

Certification Revocation

The board of directors recognizes its responsibility to protect students from physical and/or emotional harm. Certificated staff members are expected to exhibit "good moral character and personal fitness" as they teach or supervise students. Staff members shall not engage in unprofessional conduct including, but not limited to:

- A. The related acts of immorality and/or intemperance;
- B. Violation of written contract;
- C. Crime against the state or involving the physical neglect of children;
- D. The physical injury of children;
- E. Sexual misconduct with children or students;
- F. Misrepresentation or falsification in the course of professional practice;
- G. Possession, use or consumption or being under the influence of alcohol or of a controlled substance, on school premises or at a school-sponsored activity involving students;
- H. Disregard or abandonment of generally recognized professional standards;
- I. Abandonment of contract for professional services;
- J. Unauthorized professional practice;
- K. Illegal furnishing of alcohol or a controlled substance, including marijuana (cannabis) to a student; or
- L. Improper remunerative conduct.

Unprofessional conduct will not include matters such as insubordination, violation of the collective bargaining agreement or other employment related acts correctable by the district or other civil remedies.

When the superintendent possesses sufficient reliable information to believe that a certificated employee is not of good moral character or personally fit or has committed an act of unprofessional conduct, within a reasonable period of time of making such determination, he/she shall file a written complaint with the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

If the district is considering action to discharge a certificated staff member, the superintendent need not file such complaint until ten calendar days after making the final decision to serve or not serve formal notice of discharge. Such written complaint will state the grounds for revocation and summarize the factual basis upon which a determination has been made that an investigation by the superintendent of public instruction is warranted. The Superintendent of Public Instruction will provide the affected certificate holder with a copy of such written complaint.

Intentional failure to file a complaint is an act of unprofessional conduct and may be sufficient cause for revocation of the superintendent's professional education certificate. A staff member may voluntarily surrender his or her certificate.

The superintendent will maintain a confidential file containing allegations and the findings related to his/her investigation.

Cross References:	Board Policy 5005 5281	Employment Disclosures, Certification, Assurances and Approval Disciplinary Action and Discharge
Legal References:	RCW 28A.400.320 28A.405.470 28A.410.090 28A.410.100 28A.410.110 WAC 181-79A 181-86 181-87 181-79A-155	Mandatory termination of classified employees Mandatory termination of certificated employees Revocation of Authority teach — Method — Grounds Revocation of authority to teach — Hearings and appeals Reinstatement prohibited for crimes Standards for teacher, administrator, and educational staff associate certification Professional certification — Policies and procedures for administration of certification proceedings Professional certification — Acts of unprofessional conduct Good Moral Character and Personal Fitness — Necessary supporting evidence applicants
Management Resources	<i>Policy & Legal News</i> , February 2013	

Adoption Date: September 17, 2009
Revised 3.13