

OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex. rel. )  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, )  
 )  
Applicant, )  
 )  
vs. ) 2019-12  
 )  
COLT WOOLEY, )  
 )  
Respondent. )

**FINAL ORDER**

On May 5, 2022, the above-entitled matter came for hearing before the Administrative Law Judge, Gay Abston Tudor, pursuant to assignment from the State Board of Education (the “Board”). Now, on this 26th day of May, 2022, the Board voted to accept the proposed order to revoke the Oklahoma teaching certificate and certificate number of Respondent, Colt Wooley (“Wooley”).

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

1. Wooley holds an Oklahoma teaching certificate (the “Certificate”), number 438327.
2. Wooley is certified to in the following areas: 1) Physical Education/Health/Safety grades Pre-K to 12, in Oklahoma public schools. The Certificate is currently valid through June 30, 2024.
3. Wooley was most recently employed at Callisburg Independent School District, Callisburg, Texas (the “District”).
4. Pursuant to an inquiry and request for records from the Department, on June 7, 2019, the Texas Education Agency provided documents relating to the District’s investigation of Wooley for allegedly having an inappropriate relationship with a student attending school in the District.
5. On or near April 4, 2019, the District was made aware of an allegation of inappropriate conduct by Wooley with a freshman female student. *See* District Report, attached to original Application

as Exhibit “A.” More specifically, four high school female students reported to the District that they were informed that Wooley “had been texting a freshman female student, had kissed her while at school and had requested pictures of her.” *Id.*

6. With this information, the District began an investigation into the allegations, including obtaining a written incident report from the freshman student. The report from the student set forth the following allegations:

- a. A relationship between Wooley and the student began on or near March 29, 2019, when Wooley started a conversation with her while at school;
- b. On April 2, 2019, Wooley met the freshman student in the gymnasium and he kissed her and she kissed him back;
- c. Wooley subsequently texted the student and called her affectionate names, including “baby;”
- d. Wooley asked the female student for pictures and she sent him one of her in only her bra and underwear, following by one without her bra;
- e. On April 4, 2019, Wooley and the student met in the District’s weight room and began kissing, during such time Wooley placed his hand under her shirt and on the outside of her bra; and,
- f. Wooley sent the freshman student a picture of his genitals.
- g. *Id.*

7. Subsequent to receiving the written report, the District interviewed Wooley and he admitted to having an improper texting relationship with the freshman female student. *Id.* At that time, Wooley was placed on administrative leave, and resigned his employment with the District, effective April 5, 2019.

12. On the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022, the above-entitled matter came for hearing on the Application before the Administrative Law Judge, Gay Abston Tudor, pursuant to assignment from the Board. Wooley did not appear at the hearing on May 5, 2022.

### Conclusions of Law

1. The Board is vested with the general authority to provide for the health and safety of schoolchildren while under the jurisdiction of school authorities. *See* 70 O.S. § 3-104(17).

2. That Title 70 O.S. § 3-104(6) provides:

The supervision of the public school system of Oklahoma shall be vested in the State Board of Education and, subject to limitations otherwise provided by law, the State Board of Education shall...[h]ave authority in matters pertaining to the licensure and certification of persons for instructional, supervisory and administrative positions and services in the public schools of the state...and shall formulate rules governing the issuance and revocation of certificates....

3. The Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. § 250 *et seq.*, governs the State Board's administrative actions relating to teacher disciplinary matters. *See* 75 O.S. § 250.3(3). More specifically, 75 O.S. § 314(C)(2) provides:

If the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action. These proceedings shall be promptly instituted and determined.  
*See* 75 O.S. § 314.

4. Further, 75 O.S. § 314.1 provides:

As authorized by or pursuant to law, if an agency finds that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, has promulgated administrative rules which provide for such action and incorporates a finding regarding the emergency in its order, emergency actions may be ordered pending the final outcome of proceedings instituted . . .

5. The Board's rules in OAC 210:1-5-6(e) provides:

Pursuant to 75 O.S. § 314.1, in the event the State Board of Education finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, the State Board of Education may issue an emergency order summarily suspending a

certificate pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. Such proceedings shall be promptly instituted and determined. Such an order shall include specific findings of fact specifying the grounds for the emergency action. Within three (3) business days of the issuance of the order by the Board, a copy of the order shall be sent to the holder of the certificate via certified or registered mail, delivery restricted to the certificate holder, with return receipt requested.

Oklahoma law and Board rules provide that a certificate shall be revoked for a “willful violation of a rule or regulation of the State Board of Education, a willful violation of any federal or state law...or for other proper cause.” *See* 70 O.S. § 6-189(F); *see also* OAC 210:1-5-6(b).

6. Further, the Board’s rules provide that “[t]eachers are charged with the education of the youth of this State. In order to perform effectively, teachers must demonstrate a belief in the worth and dignity of each human being, recognizing the supreme importance of the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, and the nurture of democratic principles.” *See* OAC 210:20-29-1(b). (Emphasis added).

7. Additionally, the Board’s rules, at OAC 210:20-29-4, provide:

- a. The teaching profession is vested by the public with a trust and responsibility requiring the highest ideals of professional service.
- b. In order to assure that the quality of the services of the teaching profession meets the expectations of the State and its citizens, the teacher shall exert every effort to raise professional standards, fulfill professional responsibilities with honor and integrity, promote a climate that encourages the exercise of professional judgment, achieve conditions which attract persons worthy of the trust to careers in education, and assist in preventing the practice of the profession by unqualified persons.

8. It has been held by Oklahoma courts that “a teacher...in the public school system is regarded by the public and pupils in the light of an exemplar, whose words and actions are likely to be followed by the children coming under her care and protection.” *Vaughn v. Board of Bar Examiners for the Oklahoma Bar Association*, 1988 OK 87, 759 P.2d 1026, 1030. The teaching profession, not unlike the legal profession, imposes a code of ethics upon its members. *Id.* That based upon the information and evidence presented, and the foregoing authority, proper cause exists to revoke the Teaching Certificate and certification number 438327 of Colt Wooley.

9. Wooley was properly served with notice of the hearing on the Application.

10. Wooley failed to appear at the hearing on the Application. Board rules state that if the holder of the certificate fails to appear at the scheduled hearing, the Board or hearing officer shall hold the party in default and issue an order sustaining the allegations set forth in the application for revocation. OAC 210:1-5-6 (g)(1)(C).

11. WHEREFORE, based on the evidence presented and considered, in light of the foregoing, the teaching certificate and certification number of Respondent, Colt Wooley, number 438327 is hereby revoked, effective May 26, 2022.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



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Joy Hofmeister  
Chairperson of Oklahoma State Board of Education