

STATE OF MICHIGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

RE: Derek Schmidt,
Respondent

Docket No. TCR 19-3

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

This matter is before me on review from a Proposal for Decision (PFD) of Administrative Law Judge Eric Feldman (ALJ) issued on May 24, 2019. It is based on a request of the Office of Educator Excellence of the Michigan Department of Education (Department) to suspend or revoke respondent Derek Schmidt's Michigan secondary professional teaching certificate, his professional CTE certificate, and his school administrator certificate. The request is based on respondent January 2, 2019 plea-based conviction for operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. MCL 257.625(1). Because he was also convicted of this offense in both 1996 and 2000, the conviction under consideration in this case is a felony. MCL 257.625(9)(c).

A hearing before the ALJ was held on April 24, 2019. On May 24, 2019, the ALJ issued his PFD, recommending denial of the request for suspension or

revocation of respondent's certificates. Petitioner filed exceptions to the PFD on June 14, 2019. Respondent filed a brief in support of the PFD on June 24, 2019.

There is a rebuttable presumption that conviction of a crime enumerated in MCL 380.1535a or 380.1539b, including any felony,¹ is reasonably and adversely related to the ability to serve in an elementary or secondary school in Michigan and is sufficient grounds for suspension or revocation of a teaching certificate. MCL 380.1535a(10), 380.1539b(10). See also Mich Admin Code, R 380.121(1)(b) and R 390.1201(1)(b). When the Department of Education requests action against a certificate and establishes a prima facie case by proof of conviction of an enumerated crime, the burden of going forward with evidence to rebut the statutory presumption shifts to the certificate holder, who must show that, notwithstanding the conviction, he or she deserves to retain the certificate. *Hawkins* (TCR 16-7)(decision and order issued February 28, 2017).

The relevant facts are as follows.

As noted above, respondent was convicted of driving while under the influence of alcohol in 1996 and in 2000. At the hearing, he testified as follows about the aftermath of those convictions.

Back when I was younger and I made a mistake on my first two DUIs, I regained my life and I needed to make a switch and I always wanted to be a teacher, so I went into the education field and I was trying to channel my changes in life to doing something good, and I thought working with students would be what I wanted to do because it's what I wanted to do to begin with, but my life had taken a different role before that.

When I was in high school I lost my father. I had coaches, mentors, teachers, people in the profession that I really admired. I went into teaching with the fact of

¹ MCL 380.1535a(1)(a), 380.1539b(1)(a).

trying to use my life experiences and the things I had learned over my lifetime to make an impact on the youth of America, or the youth of Michigan, or Grand Rapids, wherever that may have taken me. I wanted to make a difference. And working with high school students I found that passion. I found the passion when I went into college for education, but it really transpired into my focus in life when I became a teacher. (Tr, pp 233-234).

Respondent graduated from Aquinas College in 2004 and, in that same year, the Department issued to him a secondary standard teaching certificate, with endorsements to teach business administration, history, and vocational business services. After renewal of that certificate in 2010, he advanced in 2013 to a professional teaching certificate. In addition, in 2008, the Department issued to him a standard CTE certificate and he advanced in 2013 to a professional CTE certificate. After he earned a master's degree in educational leadership from Grand Valley State University in 2013, the Department issued to him a school administrator certificate. All three certificates were renewed in 2018 and will expire on June 30, 2023. (Tr, pp 226, 236; Petitioner's Exhibit 4).

Since beginning his employment with Northview Public Schools in August 2007, respondent has served at the district's East Campus High School (East Campus), an alternative education program. He has served there as both program director and social studies teacher. In annual evaluations, his performance has been consistently rated as effective or highly effective. With the exception of the 5-day suspension arising out of the conviction that is at issue in this matter, he has never been disciplined by Northview Public Schools. (Tr, pp 185-188, 228-233; Respondent's Exhibits 1, 7).

On September 13, 2018, respondent was arrested and charged with driving while under the influence of alcohol (third offense). The charge was a felony

because of his 1996 and 2000 convictions. MCL 257.625.² At the hearing, he described the circumstances of his life at the time of his arrest, including his fiancée's serious medical concerns, his brother's cancer diagnosis, and a real estate foreclosure due to the presence of black mold. He was clear, however, that none of those circumstances provided an excuse for his conduct. (Tr, pp 235-236, 239-241; Petitioner's Exhibits 8, 12).

² MCL 257.625 provides in part as follows.

(1) A person, whether licensed or not, shall not operate a vehicle upon a highway or other place open to the general public or generally accessible to motor vehicles, including an area designated for the parking of vehicles, within this state if the person is operating while intoxicated. As used in this section, "operating while intoxicated" means any of the following:

(a) The person is under the influence of alcoholic liquor, a controlled substance, or other intoxicating substance or a combination of alcoholic liquor, a controlled substance, or other intoxicating substance.

(b) The person has an alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine or, beginning October 1, 2021, the person has an alcohol content of 0.10 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(c) The person has an alcohol content of 0.17 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(9) If a person is convicted of violating subsection (1). . ., all of the following apply:

(c) If the violation occurs after 2 or more prior convictions, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, the person is guilty of a felony and must be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$500.00 or more than \$5,000.00 and to either of the following:

(i) Imprisonment under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections for not less than 1 year or more than 5 years.

(ii) Probation with imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 30 days or more than 1 year and community service for not less than 60 days or more than 180 days. Not less than 48 hours of the imprisonment imposed under this subparagraph must be served consecutively.

(d) A term of imprisonment imposed under subdivision. . .(c) must not be suspended.

(e). . .In the judgment of sentence under subdivision. . .(c), the court shall, unless the vehicle is ordered forfeited under section 625n, order vehicle immobilization as provided in section 904d.

Respondent pleaded guilty to the felony charge on January 2, 2019, and, on February 4, 2019, he was sentenced to a jail term of 90 days (with credit for one day served and the opportunity to be released early if he entered a sobriety program) and a 24-month term of probation. He was released early from jail in April 2019. (Tr, pp 238, 276; Petitioner's Exhibits 5, 12). As a result of his conviction, his driver's license has been suspended. (Tr, pp 270, 288).

Respondent has kept the Northview administration apprised of his arrest and of the criminal proceedings. Because of his conviction, he was placed on unpaid administrative leave for five days. However, with full knowledge of his criminal case, the Northview superintendent approved his continued employment as a teacher and the Northview Board of Education voted to retain him in his teaching position.³ He was granted work release during his jail term and he continued to teach at East Campus both during and after his incarceration. (Tr, pp 90-102, 277, 293; Respondent's Exhibits 1, 2, 3).

At the time of the hearing, Respondent was a full-time social studies teacher, teaching at East Campus both during the day and in the program's night school. He was one of only four general education teachers assigned to East Campus. His performance as a social studies teacher was rated as highly effective in 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. (Tr, pp 84-85, 99, 229-232; Respondent's Exhibit 1). He has also taught summer school for over 10 years. (Tr, p 267).

On September 25, 2018, shortly after his arrest, respondent met with limited license psychologist Janette Curtis, who is an addiction specialist who holds an advanced alcohol and drug counselor certificate (CAADC). Based on her

³ MCL 380.1230(9) (school district shall not employ individual convicted of felony unless district superintendent and governing board approve employment in writing).

assessment at that time, Ms. Curtis, who was aware of his prior convictions and his pending criminal case, diagnosed respondent as having a mild alcohol use disorder. In arriving at her diagnosis, she found it significant that there had been an 18-year gap between his second and third alcohol-related arrests. Between October 2, 2018, and January 22, 2019 (shortly before the beginning of his jail term), she met with him approximately weekly for therapy sessions. At the time of the hearing, he was scheduled to resume his therapy sessions with her on April 30, 2019. She was not concerned about the break in therapy during his incarceration. (Tr, pp 114-119, 121, 123, 127-130).

In Ms. Curtis' judgment, respondent has been extremely compliant with his treatment plan and his behavior has shown an increasing understanding of addiction and of the severity of his disorder. He takes his diagnosis very seriously, has been "really learning about it," stopped making excuses for his behavior in mid-October 2018, and is highly motivated to change. He has progressed quickly, moving at the end of October from a stage of contemplating his condition to an action stage that involves putting a plan into place to address his condition. She commended his "super active" involvement with Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), his use of coping skills, his active reliance on his AA sponsor, his attendance at therapy appointments, his verbalization and openness to discussing pertinent issues with his support system, and his management of triggers. In her view, he has "absolutely" taken responsibility for his conduct. (Tr, pp 119-124).

John Morrison, who has been in AA for over 13 years and whom respondent met at an AA meeting in October 2018, is respondent's AA sponsor. Before respondent began his jail term, they saw each other at AA meetings about two or

three times a week and talked on the telephone a couple of times a week. While respondent was in jail, he contacted Mr. Morrison during the day when he was on work release. After respondent's release from jail, they resumed their meetings. In Mr. Morrison's judgment, respondent is honest and sincere, has taken responsibility for his drinking, is committed to abstaining from alcohol, has a positive attitude about AA, and is eager to work through the 12-step AA program. (Tr, pp 134-141; Respondent's Exhibit 1).

Respondent testified that he takes full responsibility for his conduct and he pointed to his decision to plead guilty as evidence of that fact. He is aware of the deleterious impact of his conviction on his relationships with many people and he is resolved to make amends with the people he has hurt. He attended AA meetings in jail and, in early March 2019, he participated in a restorative circle with his East Campus colleagues, an event designed to regain their trust. He testified that he talked with Ms. Curtis by telephone during his incarceration and that he intends to continue meeting with her and attending AA meetings. (Tr, pp 195, 241-244, 277, 289, 292, 294, 296, 302-303, 306).

There was overwhelming evidence that respondent is a valued member of the Northview East Campus High School staff. In a March 1, 2019 letter, for example, Northview Interim Superintendent Elizabeth Cotter wrote that East Campus "can be a challenging assignment" but that respondent "greet[s] each day and each student with positivity, affirmation and empathy." According to Ms. Cotter, he "has received high praise as a teacher." (Respondent's Exhibit 1). At the hearing, she testified that the district appreciates respondent's commitment to his students and their families and considers him an asset in that regard. (Tr, p

109). Based on her own observations, discussions with respondent's supervisors, the evaluations of his performance, and his disciplinary record, she recommended to the superintendent that he be retained as a member of the teaching staff. (Tr, p 105; Respondent's Exhibit 1).

East Campus Principal Brent Dickerson testified that respondent is well liked by students, has "a great relationship with staff," and plays a significant role in the daily operations of the East Campus program. (Tr, p 188). He supports respondent's continued employment notwithstanding his felony conviction.

I just feel like Derek has a good rapport with our students. He—he helps them get to the finish line. Our students come from troubled backgrounds, challenging situations at home. They haven't been successful in many aspects of their educational career and Derek just does a great job of helping them finish up what—you know, to get their diploma. (Tr, p 190)

Andrew Klopchic is the coordinator of student supports at East Campus. His office is next to respondent's classroom and they interact regularly throughout the school day. (Tr, pp 167, 169). He testified as follows about respondent's skills and about their significance at East Campus.

He is one of the more positive individuals that I have had a chance to work with. His relationship building is possibly second to none, whether it be staff, parents, students. He is always positive. He is able to reach people from just a wide variety of backgrounds and just get to know them, show that he cares about them. And this is something that I see on a day-to-day basis with—everybody who—who is in our school community.

With students coming from the—the backgrounds that we have, the drama that they have endured, for somebody to be able to build relationships and understand where students are coming from as well as parents is very important, and Derek shows this ability on a day-to-day basis.

Derek is a vital part of our school community. Our students undergo a lot of change in their daily lives and—and Derek is a steadying force in many of their lives and he is a, he's a phenomenal educator. And without him, our educational process would have been disturbed greatly. (Tr, pp 170-171, 175)

In addition to testifying on respondent's behalf at the hearing, Mr. Klopchic prepared a letter of support that was made a part of the record. (Respondent's Exhibit 1).

In Mr. Klopchic's written words, respondent "continually puts others before himself," is "second to none" as an educator, continually helps his co-workers, and consistently forms and builds positive relationships with students.

One of respondent's current teaching colleagues, John Rutherford, also testified on his behalf. He has worked with respondent at East Campus for about 12 years and has an excellent working relationship with him. (Tr, pp 148-149). He described East Campus students as "100% at risk" of not graduating or not graduating on time. (Tr, p 147). In his opinion, many students would not have graduated without respondent's support. (Tr, p 155). On a daily basis, he sees respondent exhibit listening skills, empathy, and an ability to relate to and bond with students, who "gravitate toward [him] like a magnet." More students attend night school when respondent is teaching than on other nights "just because they want to be in his classroom and be with him." (Tr, pp 149-150, 152, 154). He described respondent's positive interactions with parents.

Somehow he can calm them down even under some of the worst conditions. It absolutely amazes me at times when I'm at odds with a parent and can't seem to do it, and he can bring them in and bring them in the fold at least as far as they might not always be happy, but at least they're reasonable in what's going on. (Tr, p 154)

When asked if he had any hesitation about continuing to work with respondent in light of his felony conviction, Mr. Rutherford testified, "Not a doubt in my mind." (Tr, p 156).

The record also contains letters of support recently written by several of respondent's current colleagues. (Respondent's Exhibit 1). Audrey Eckerly, East Campus school counselor, has worked with respondent for 11 years and described him as "truly a valuable asset to our program," "the heart of this school," and "every student's favorite teacher." She and other East Campus staff members (language arts teacher Jean Peck, mathematics teacher Joshua Clapp, and administrative assistant Pamela Dame) echoed others' assessment of his ability to form positive relationships, whether it be with students, staff, or parents. In the words of Mr. Clapp, who also praised respondent's performance as East Campus director, "Each student knows that they have a teacher who cares intensely about their wellbeing in Mr. Schmidt." Ms. Peck described respondent's ability to address students' disciplinary problems "in a non-confrontational, positive, and effective manner."

Former East Campus Principal Jamey Vermaat also testified in support of respondent.

Mr. Schmidt's rapport with students was his greatest quality as an educator. That's one of the reasons I brought him to Northview with me [from another alternative high school]. . . That—again, that was his greatest asset as a [sic] educator was the ability to form positive relationships with the students and get the students to believe in themselves and that kind of translated into the classroom of students attending, you know, because we have a very transient population of students. And so, I mean, students absolutely came to school to see Mr. Schmidt on a daily basis.

From my eight years leaving [sic] an alternative building, I would say that is one of the most vital components to have as an educator is the ability to motivate and build confidence within a group of students where their self-confidence, you know, has been destroyed in the past.

I have not observed an instance that I can recall of negative collegial relationships with his fellow teaching staff. He is one that is always willing to assist his fellow teaching staff, whether it be covering classes if they have to step out of the building for a personal matter, or covering students. He was always one that was willing to kind of go the extra mile to make it work in the building.

I think taking Mr. Schmidt away from the East Campus would be detrimental to the students that East Campus serves. (Tr, pp 203-204, 206).

One of respondent's former students and mentees, C.P., testified on his behalf, describing him as the "number one advocate" for her and for every East Campus student. He helped C.P. understand that she had a learning disability and he gave her a safe space to study where she could perform to her potential. In fact, according to C.P., respondent made school a safe place where all students could excel, and she credits him with making it possible for her to graduate. He offered an optional personal finance class on Fridays, which was not a mandatory attendance day for East Campus students. C.P. attended the class because respondent was the teacher and, to this day, she uses the skills she learned in the class. (Tr, pp 215-220).

Respondent's involvement in the Northview education community has extended well beyond classroom instruction. He has served as regional director of the Michigan Alternative Athletic Association (MAAA), athletic coach, mentor of students, Feeding America volunteer leader, Big Brother/Big Sister volunteer leader, Grand Rapids North Rotary Team member representing Northview Public

Schools, and member of the parent advisory committee, the school improvement team, the district social studies committee, and the district whole child committee. He has also spearheaded East Campus students' volunteer work at a Grand Rapids food pantry and organized students to distribute mittens and blankets to people who were homeless. Both Mr. Klopchic and Mr. Vermaat testified about the significance of respondent's involvement in the MAAA, which provides extracurricular activities for alternative education students so that they can have a full high school experience, including social activities outside the regular school day. (Tr, pp 150-151, 153, 172-174, 205, 265-269; Respondent's Exhibit 7).

Based on his review of the evidence, the ALJ found that respondent rebutted the statutory presumption that his felony conviction showed his lack of fitness to serve in a Michigan school.

In *Hawkins, supra*, I set forth a non-inclusive list of factors that are relevant in my review of requests for certificate suspension based on criminal convictions.

Among the factors considered in determining whether criminal conduct adversely affects an individual's fitness to serve in a Michigan school are the nature of the conduct, including any extenuating or aggravating circumstances surrounding the conduct and the motives for the conduct; the type of certificate at stake; whether the individual has taken full responsibility for the criminal conduct, including whether the individual demonstrates an understanding and recognition of the severity of the conduct; the likelihood that the criminal conduct may have adversely affected students or others in the school community; the proximity or remoteness in time of the criminal conduct; and the likelihood of recurrence, including steps taken to avoid situations that might trigger the objectionable conduct. *Van Hulle* (TCR 15-3); *Sledge* [TCR 15-4]; *Eleby* (TCR 08-4); *Young* (TCR 92-3). Each case of an educator who has been convicted of a crime enumerated in MCL 380.1535a is examined on its own facts with these and any other relevant factors in mind.

The request to suspend Mr. Hawkins' school administrator certificate was based on his misdemeanor conviction for domestic violence, MCL 750.81(2), which is a crime enumerated in MCL 380.1535a(1)(b)(v) and 380.1539b(1)(b)(v).⁴ Based on careful review of the record in that case, I declined to order suspension of Mr. Hawkins' school administrator certificate, finding no evidence that he was unfit to serve in a Michigan school. My conclusion was based on many factors, including Mr. Hawkins' credible profession of full responsibility and remorse for his conduct, his faithful and active participation in counseling designed to address the conduct that gave rise to his conviction, his recognition of the seriousness of his behavior, the overwhelming support of his colleagues, his outstanding work in very challenging school environments, the lack of widespread knowledge of his conduct, the absence of any adverse effect on the school community, the remoteness in time of his previous involvement with the criminal justice system,⁵ and the minimal likelihood of recurrence of his offending conduct. However, I found that imposition of conditions on Mr. Hawkins' certificate, as allowed by Mich Admin Code, R 380.121(1), was reasonable. See also Mich Admin Code, R 390.1201(1) (imposition of reasonable conditions on teaching certificate).

In this case, petitioner argues that, because respondent is currently on probation, suspension of his certificates is required. Under the facts of this case, I disagree. Although the fact of an unfinished term of probation has been cited in support of suspension of educators' certificates (e.g., *Van Hulle* (TCR 15-3) and

⁴ Being a felony, the crime for which respondent was convicted is enumerated in MCL 380.1535a(1)(a) and 380.1539b(1)(a).

⁵ The conviction at issue in *Hawkins* occurred in 2016. Mr. Hawkins had also been arrested (but not convicted) for similar conduct in 2001 and 2005.

cases cited therein), it has never been an absolute bar to the rejection of a suspension request. See, for example, *Sledge* (TCR 15-4) (fact that certificate holder was on probation “weigh[ed] heavily” against allowing retention of certificate). As stated in *Hawkins, supra*, each case is reviewed on its own facts. Mr. Hawkins himself was on probation when conditions were placed on his school administrator certificate.

Petitioner argues that this case is similar to *McDonald* (TCR 12-1). I find that several factors significantly distinguish *McDonald*, including that the previous alcohol-related conviction in that case was only three years before the conviction at issue and that the certificate holder failed to present proof of her attendance at AA meetings or of a professional assessment of her progress in meeting the goals of counseling. Petitioner also cites *Thalison* (TCR 03-1) and *Baird* (TCR 04-4). In my judgment, the decisions in those cases do not compel suspension of respondent’s certificates. In *Thalison, supra*, the certificate holder was convicted within a span of six months of two felonies and two misdemeanors based on conduct related to her addiction to prescription painkillers; she presented a “serious lack of corroborating evidence,” with most of her evidence consisting of her own testimony and letters from family members and friends; she presented no proof of her attendance at AA or Narcotics Anonymous meetings; and she presented inadequate evidence of her prognosis. Each of these factors sets that case apart from the instant case. In addition, it is noteworthy that Ms. Thalison had taught for only one year, that at times she had taught while under the influence of illegal drugs, and that twice she had asked to leave school during the workday when she experienced withdrawal effects after not being able to obtain drugs. *Baird, supra*, is also distinguishable in

that the certificate holder was convicted for bank robbery (a felony) and she was still in prison at the time of the hearing; her claim that she had been coerced to rob the bank by the person who had been supplying her illegally with marijuana was not persuasive; the only evidence of her effort to reform herself concerned programs she had sought while in prison; her conduct, including the fact that she was a teacher, was a matter of widespread publicity and had thus brought harm to the school where she taught; and there was evidence that one student suffered emotional harm upon learning of her conduct.

Based on careful consideration of the evidence in this case, I decline to find that respondent is unfit to serve in Michigan schools. On the contrary, I find compelling evidence that he can continue to serve effectively as an educator notwithstanding his conviction. The overwhelming evidence is that he is an excellent, valued member of the teaching staff of Northview East Campus and that his removal would be a great loss to the East Campus community. The district and superintendent are firm in their support of him and in their desire to retain him in a teaching position notwithstanding his conviction. There was no evidence of widespread knowledge of his conviction among students or parents or of any adverse impact of the conviction in the school community. There was no evidence that he ever consumed alcohol during the school day or that his consumption of alcohol ever affected his performance at work. I find that he has taken full responsibility for, and is fully aware of the serious nature of, his conduct and I find that the record reasonably supports the conclusion that the likelihood of recurrence of his criminal conduct is minimal. He is progressing both in his knowledge of the significance of his issues related to the use of alcohol and in taking appropriate action to address those

issues. In addition, I find significant the fact that his criminal conduct was deemed to be felonious based solely on prior convictions that occurred more than 18 years ago. Without downplaying to any degree the serious nature of his September 2018 conduct, I note that, following the 2000 matter, he earned a college degree, became a Michigan certified teacher, and served admirably as an educator for many years. There was no evidence that he had any contact with the criminal justice system between the 2000 matter and his arrest in September 2018. In my judgment, imposition of the drastic penalty of suspension of his certificates at this time would unreasonably and disproportionately punish him for long-ago conduct and for recent conduct that was clearly an aberration in his otherwise positive life trajectory. For these reasons, I find that, as in *Hawkins*, the facts in this case do not justify suspension or revocation of respondent's certificates at this time. However, given the serious, felonious nature of his conduct, I find, as in *Hawkins*, that placement of reasonable conditions on his retention of his certificates is appropriate. I therefore deny the request for suspension or revocation of his certificates and impose the following conditions.

1. No later than 10 days after issuance of this decision, respondent shall provide the Office of Educator Excellence with a court order listing the terms of his probation.
2. Respondent shall comply with all terms of his probation.
3. Respondent shall not be subject to any school district disciplinary action related to the use of alcohol during the period of his probation.

4. No later than 10 days after a change in his address or other contact information during the period of his probation, respondent shall notify the Office of Educator Excellence of the change.
5. At least monthly, respondent shall attend individual counseling with Janette Curtis or with another licensed therapist who has full knowledge of the circumstances surrounding his felony conviction.
6. At least weekly, respondent shall attend AA meetings.
7. Respondent shall file a report with the Office of Educator Excellence twice yearly, beginning on August 30, 2019, and no more than 10 days after he is discharged from probation, verifying his compliance with all of these conditions. Respondent shall file these reports with the Office of Educator Excellence no later than August 30, 2019, February 29, 2020, and August 30, 2020, and no later than 10 days after his discharge from probation. If respondent is discharged from probation before August 30, 2020, no report shall be due on August 30, 2020, and the report filed no later than 10 days after his discharge from probation shall be his final report.

ORDER

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the request for suspension or revocation of the professional teaching certificate, the professional CTE certificate, and the school administrator certificate of Derek Schmidt is denied at this time. It is further ordered that, if Derek Schmidt fails to comply with the conditions set forth in this final decision, the Office of Educator Excellence may renew its request for the suspension or revocation of his certificates.

Sheila A. Alles
Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction

DATED: July 18, 2019