

BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of
the License of
Cecily Adams

Case No: 19-PPC-45
OAH No: 20ED0008 ED

FINAL ORDER

NOW, on this 8th day of September 2020, the above-captioned matter comes for consideration by the Kansas State Board of Education (Board). Appearing for the Board are Chairwoman, Kathy Busch, and members, Jean Clifford, Michelle Dombrosky, Deena Horst, Ben Jones, Jim McNiece, Ann Mah, Jim Porter, Steve Roberts and Janet Waugh.

WHEREUPON the Professional Practices Commission (Commission) considered the matter on August 3, 2020. Licensee appeared by and through counsel Vincent Cox. The Kansas State Department of Education appeared through its attorney, Scott Gordon. After reviewing the evidence, the Commission voted 8 – 0, to recommend the Board grant the professional teaching license of Cecily Adams subject to public censure.

WHEREUPON the Board reviewed the Commission's Initial Order and after considering the presentation by Linda Sieck, Commission Chair, who was available to answer the Board's questions and being otherwise duly advised in the premises, the Board adopted the Commission's findings of fact and conclusions of law by a vote of 10 – 0.

All findings set forth in the Commission's Initial Order attached hereto are incorporated by reference and made a part of this Final Order as though fully set forth at length herein.

IT IS THEREFORE CONCLUDED by the Kansas State Board of Education that Cecily Adam's professional teaching license is granted subject to public censure.

This Final Order is made and entered this 8th day of September 2020.

Kansas State Board of Education



BY: Kathy Busch, Chairwoman
Signed September 22, 2020

NOTICE TO LICENSEE/APPLICANT

This is a Final Order and is effective upon service.

To request reconsideration of this order, you must file a Petition for Reconsideration with the Secretary to the State Board of Education, at the address below, within 15 days after service of this Final Order. The Petition must state the specific grounds upon which relief is requested.

To request a stay of effectiveness of this order, you must file a Petition for Stay with the Secretary to the State Board of Education at the address below. A petition can be filed until the time which a petition for judicial review would no longer be timely.

To seek judicial review of a Final Order, you must file a petition in the District Court as authorized by K.S.A. 77-601, *et seq.* within 30 days following the service of the Final Order. Filing a Petition for Reconsideration is not a prerequisite for seeking judicial review. A copy of any Petition for Judicial Review must be served upon the Secretary to the State Board of Education at the address below.

Peggy Hill
Secretary, Kansas State Board of Education
Landon State Office Building
900 SW Jackson Ave. Suite 600N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

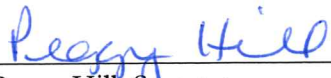
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 20th day of September 2020, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Vincent M. Cox
Cavanaugh, Biggs & Lemon, P.A.
2942A S.W. Wanamaker Drive, Suite 100
Topeka, KS 66614-4479

And via interoffice mail to:

R. Scott Gordon
Kansas State Department of Education
900 SW Jackson Street, Ste. 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612



Peggy Hill, Secretary
Kansas State Board of Education

**BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION**

In the Matter of
the License of
Cecily Adams

19-PPC-45

**Initial Order based upon
Stipulated Findings of Fact and
Conclusions of Law**

The above-captioned case comes on for hearing before the Professional Practices Commissioner (“Commission”) of the Kansas State Board of Education (State Board) upon the Complaint filed by the Kansas State Department of Education (“KSDE”) seeking revocation of the license of Cecily Adams (“Licensee”).

The hearing on this matter was held on August 3, 2020. Appearing for the Commission were chairperson, Sylvia Ramirez, and members, William Anderson, Aaron Edwards, Nathan Reed, Eric Filippi, Caroline Spaulding, Kimberly Gilman, and Stan Ruff. The KSDE appeared by and through its attorney, R. Scott Gordon. Licensee appeared by and through counsel Vincent Cox.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Licensee has been a licensed teacher since 1997.
2. On February 10, 2019, Licensee was charged by the City of Lenexa, Kansas with misdemeanors of Possession of Illegal Drugs (marijuana) and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.
3. On September 19, 2019, Licensee entered into a Diversion Agreement with the City of Lenexa, Kansas whereby she agreed to comply with certain terms of her diversion to avoid criminal prosecution. Within that Diversion Agreement, the Licensee stipulated to facts as to Possession of Illegal Drugs and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia..
4. Upon her request, Licensee was granted early release from her diversion on July 30, 2020. Having successfully completed her diversion, she is no longer under supervision.
5. For purposes of these proceedings only, both parties agree and stipulate that substantial, competent evidence exists which warrants public censure of the Licensee.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Kansas State Board of Education (State Board) is responsible for the general supervision of Kansas education, including the certification and licensure of teachers. Kan. Const., Art. VI and K.S.A. 72-255.
2. One of the obvious goals of education is to “instill respect for the law.” Hainline v. Bond, 250 Kan. 217 (1992). An educator is a role model. Hainline at 224.
3. Teaching and school administration are professions with all the similar rights, responsibilities and privileges accorded other legally recognized professions. K.S.A. 72-2308.
4. The Kansas State Board of Education may revoke or suspend the license of any teacher, or the teacher may be publicly censured, for professional misconduct or other just cause including entering into a criminal diversion agreement after being charged of a crime involving drug-related conduct. K.A.R. 91-22-1a.
5. By order of the State Board, the Commission shall investigate and conduct hearings pertaining to allegations of misconduct.
6. The Commission finds that substantial, competent evidence supports the public censure of the Licensee.
7. The Licensee acknowledges and understands the Commission can only make recommendations to the State Board.
8. Both KSDE and the Licensee agree to not present any additional evidence or information other than what has already been provided to the Professional Practices Commission and the stipulations contained herein, nor will either party ask the Commission or the State Board for discipline other than that recommended in this Initial Order.

THEREFORE the Professional Practices Commission recommends to the State Board, by a vote of 8-0, with Jennifer Holt abstaining, that Cecily Adams’ license be publicly censured.

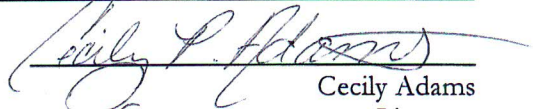
This Initial Order is made and entered this August 3 2020.

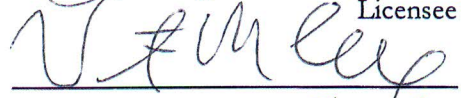
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

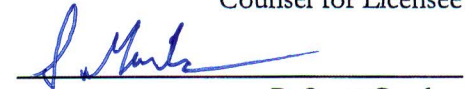
Sylvia Ramirez, Chairwoman

Order signed on _____, 2020.

AGREED TO AND APPROVED BY:


Cecily Adams
Licensee


Vincent Cox
Counsel for Licensee


R. Scott Gordon
Kansas State Department of Education

NOTICE TO APPLICANT

This Order is not a Final Order and is required to be reviewed by the Kansas State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act. The State Board will review all issues. Notice of review with the specific date and time will be provided to the parties within 15 days of the review.

You may submit to the State Board for its consideration as part of its review of the Initial Order a written brief citing legal authority as to why the above recommendation should not be accepted. You must file the brief with the State Board Secretary at the address indicated below within ten calendar days after service of the Initial Order for transmittal to the State Board. You must also make any request for oral argument at that time.

Peggy Hill
Secretary, Kansas State Board of Education
900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 600
Topeka, KS 66612

Response briefs are due within ten calendar days after service of the legal brief upon the opposing party. Any reply brief is due five calendar days after service of any response brief upon the opposing party. Any response or reply briefs must also be filed with the State Board Secretary at the address indicated above.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this _____ day of _____, 2020, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was filed with the Secretary for the Kansas State Board of Education and one (1) copy was mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Vincent M. Cox
Cavanaugh, Biggs & Lemon, P.A.
2942A S.W. Wanamaker Drive, Suite 100
Topeka, KS 66614-4479

And via interoffice mail to:

R. Scott Gordon
Kansas State Department of Education
900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Candi Brown
Secretary, Professional Practices Commission