

**BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of  
the License  
of Jon Froehlich

16-PPC-32  
OAH No. 17ED0009

**FINAL ORDER**

NOW, on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2017, the above-captioned matter comes for consideration by the Kansas State Board of Education (Board). Appearing for the Board are Chairman, Jim Porter, and members, John Bacon, Kathy Busch, Sally Cauble, Deena Horst, Jim McNiece, Ann Mah, Steve Roberts, Janet Waugh, and Ken Willard.

WHEREUPON the Professional Practices Commission (Commission) considered the matter on April 3, 2017. Jon Froehlich appeared in person. The Kansas State Department of Education appeared through its attorney, Kelli M. Broers. After reviewing the evidence, the Commission voted 7 – 0 to recommend Froehlich’s teaching license should be revoked.

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 Jon Froehlich’s teaching license should be revoked.

This Final Order is made and entered this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2017.

Kansas State Board of Education



BY: Jim Porter, Chairman  
Signed June 13, 2017

**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

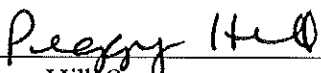
**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Jon Froehlich  
510 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

And via interoffice mail to:

Kelli Broers  
Assistant General Counsel  
900 SW Jackson Street, Ste. 102  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

  
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Peggy Hill, Secretary  
Kansas State Board of Education

BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of  
the Professional License  
of Jon Froehlich

Case No. 16-PPC-32

OAH No. 17ED0009

**INITIAL ORDER**

**Statement of Case**

This matter comes on for hearing before the Professional Practices Commission (Commission) of the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) upon the complaint seeking revocation of Jon Froehlich's professional teaching license.

The hearing was held on April 3, 2017. Appearing for the Commission were chairperson, Linda Sieck, and members, Dorsey Burgess, Maret Schrader, Jessica Snyder, Justin Henry, John McKinney, and Sylvia Ramirez.

The licensee appeared *pro se*. The KSDE appeared by and through its attorney, Kelli Broers.

**Findings of Fact**

1. Mr. Froehlich has held a professional teaching license in Kansas since 2013.
2. Mr. Froehlich was employed at Lawrence Southwest Middle School beginning in 2014.
3. Mr. Froehlich testified that he smoked marijuana on a daily basis during the relevant time period.

4. Mr. Froehlich also testified that he purchased an ounce of marijuana from a friend in Colorado in November 2015, December 2015, and January 2016, and had the marijuana mailed to the middle school.

5. On January 5, 2016, Mr. Froehlich was arrested, at the school, for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia, after signing for the package containing the marijuana.

6. Mr. Froehlich was charged criminally for his misconduct in Case No. 2016 CR 206 in the District Court of Douglas County.

7. On September 16, 2016, Mr. Froehlich pleaded guilty to and was convicted of misdemeanor possession of marijuana. Mr. Froehlich's probation period is for 12 months.

8. On December 20, 2016, the KSDE filed the formal complaint seeking revocation of Mr. Froehlich's professional teaching license.

9. Mr. Froehlich timely filed an answer and requested a hearing.

Conclusions of Law  
and  
Discussion

1. The Kansas State Board of Education (State Board) is responsible for licensing Kansas educators and may revoke a license for misconduct or other just cause. K.A.R. 91-22-1a(a).

2. Additionally, the State Board may revoke a teaching license if an individual has been convicted of a misdemeanor involving drug-related conduct. K.A.R. 91-22-1a.

3. Pursuant to K.S.A. 72-8501, the Legislature has declared teaching and school administration to be professions in Kansas with all the similar rights, responsibilities and privileges accorded other legally recognized professions. An educator is in a position of public trust.

4. Educators, as licensed professionals, are held to a higher standard. Educators are role models not only for the students but for the community.

5. Mr. Froehlich's conduct, i.e., having marijuana mailed to the middle school where he was a teacher, coupled with his daily use of an illegal drug, is inconsistent with the commonly held perceptions and expectations of a member of the teaching profession. Such conduct violates the public trust and confidence placed in the members of the profession.

6. Mr. Froehlich's conduct demonstrates a lack of fitness to perform the duties and responsibilities of a member of the teaching and school administration professions and is sufficient and just cause for revoking his license and all associated endorsements.

7. Mr. Froehlich also testified that he had a troubled childhood and has suffered from depression and addiction. He testified that working with children with issues were a trigger.

8. This testimony was very troubling to the Commission and only reinforced that at this time, Mr. Froehlich lacks the fitness to be a licensed teacher.

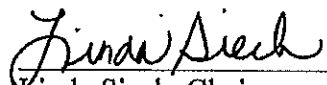
On a vote of 7-0, the Commission finds that there is sufficient and just cause to revoke Mr. Froehlich's professional teaching license.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED by the Professional Practices Commission to the Kansas State Board of Education that the license of Jon Froehlich be revoked.

This Initial Order of the Professional Practices Commission 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 licensee may submit to the Kansas State Board of Education for its consideration as a part of its review of the Initial Order, a written brief citing legal authority as to why the above recommendation should not be accepted. The legal brief must be filed with the Secretary of the Professional Practices Commission, Kansas State Department of Education, 900 SW Jackson Street, Topeka, Kansas 66612, within ten days after service of the Initial Order for transmittal to the Kansas State Board of Education.

This Initial Order is made and entered this 14 day of April, 2017.

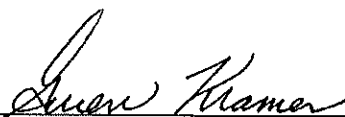
  
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Linda Sieck, Chairperson  
Professional Practices Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On April 14, 2017, I mailed a copy of this document to:

Jon Froehlich  
510 W. 6th Street  
Lawrence, KS 66044

Kelli M. Broers, Attorney  
Kansas State Department of Education  
900 SW Jackson, Ste. 102  
Topeka, KS 66612  
Telephone: 785-296-3204



Gwen Kramer, Secretary  
Professional Practices Commission  
Kansas State Department of Education  
900 SW Jackson Street  
Topeka, KS 66612-1182