



IN THE MATTER OF THE *TEACHERS ACT*, SBC 2011 c. 19

AND

**IN THE MATTER CONCERNING
PETRONELLA AGNES DUNDERDALE**



CONSENT RESOLUTION SUMMARY

This summary is published under section 54(3) of the Teachers Act to protect the identity of a student who was harmed, abused or exploited by the teacher.

1. Dunderdale holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, No. [REDACTED]. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on October 5, 2005, is valid from September 1, 2005 and continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
2. At all material times, Dunderdale was employed as a teacher by School District No. 36 (Surrey) (the “District”) at a District school (the “School”).
3. On March 10, 2016, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Dunderdale, under section 16(2) of the *School Act*.
4. Dunderdale was the head of a program in which Student A, a special needs student, was enrolled.
5. Student A had a safety plan which teachers and educational assistants (“EAs”) were required to follow. Student A’s safety plan noted that she would, on occasion, show frustration and aggression towards peers and adults through hitting, pushing, or swearing. It was also noted that she would on occasion leave the school when very frustrated. The safety plan included a crisis management plan for School staff to implement when necessary. Under the plan, where Student A exhibited signs of anxiety, staff members were to provide supportive, non-judgmental responses. When she exhibited defensive behaviours (including saying “no” and “leave me alone”), staff members were to allow Student A time to process and honour her need for space. When she was acting out, staff members were to keep a safe distance and send for help from administration.

6. One day in March 2016, Dunderdale was in a room with Student A and two EAs. Student A swore at Dunderdale, at which time Dunderdale directed one of the EAs to begin filming their interaction using a cell phone. Dunderdale did not have Student A's parents' permission to film her in this manner.
7. During this interaction, Dunderdale spoke to Student A in an inappropriate and confrontational manner which was inconsistent with her safety plan, and which caused Student A to grow more agitated. Student A asked Dunderdale to stop filming, telling her: "Please don't torture me. It's very bad."
8. At no time did Dunderdale instruct the EA to cease filming Student A, in spite of Student A's request that filming stop.
9. Student A left the room, agitated, and ended up outside the School where other staff members had to calm her and bring her back inside.
10. The District issued Dunderdale a letter of discipline and suspended her without pay from May 4 to June 15, 2016. Following her suspension, Dunderdale would return to work as a teacher on call. By September 1, 2016, Dunderdale was required to complete four counselling sessions focusing on anger management strategies. In addition, Dunderdale was required to participate in training sessions designed to assist her with her interactions with students. The District reassigned Dunderdale following her suspension, and has prohibited her from applying for any special needs assignments until October 2017.
11. In August 2016, Dunderdale completed the course "Foundations of Collaborative Conflict Resolution" through the Justice Institute of B.C.
12. On April 27, 2017, Dunderdale entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner in which she agreed that her conduct, described in paragraphs 6-8 above constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standard #1 of the *Standards for the Education, Competence and Professional Conduct of Educators in British Columbia*, Fourth Edition, January 2012.
13. Dunderdale has agreed to a reprimand under sections 53 and 64(a) of the *Teachers Act*.