IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

STACY SNYDER, : CIVIL ACTION

:

Plaintiff,

.

v. :

.

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY,

<u>et al</u>. : 07-1660

:

Defendants. :

EXHIBITS TO MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

- A Declaration of Judith Wenrich (Wenrich")
- B Millersville Guide to Student Teaching ("MU Guide")
- C Deposition of Stacy Snyder ("Snyder")
 - C-1 Plaintiff Background Information

SNYDER v. MILLERSWILLICUNIVERCHOTORCHARGES

- C-3 Reinking notes during semester
- C-4 Girvin notes during semester
- C-5 Reinking mid-term evaluation of plaintiff
- C-6 Girvin's mid-term evaluation of plaintiff
- C-7 Girvin's mid-term PDE-430 of plaintiff
- C-8 Plaintiff's mid-term self-assessment
- C-9 Reinking final evaluation of plaintiff
- C-10 "Drunken pirate" picture and text
- C-11 Picture
- C-12 Girvin's final evaluation of plaintiff
- C-13 "Unprofessional Behavior/Performance in the Classroom"
- C-14 Plaintiff's response to Ex. C-13
- C-15 Plaintiff's May 9, 2006 e-mail to Girvin
- C-16 Plaintiff's "apology letter"
- C-17 Plaintiff's "request for exception to graduation requirements"
- C-18 Girvin's final PDE-430 of plaintiff

Doc. 33 Att. 1

- D Deposition of Barry Girvin ("Girvin")
- E Deposition of Deann Buffington ("Buffington")
- F Deposition of Nicole Reinking ("Reinking")
- G Declaration of Jane Bray ("Bray")
- H Declaration of Barry Girvin ("Girvin Declaration")
- I Deposition of Beverly Schneller ("Schneller")
- J Declaration of Vilas Prabhu ("Prabhu")
- K Deposition of Gerald Huesken ("Huesken")



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Declaration

I, Judith Wenrich hereby declare as follows:

- 1. I am employed at Millersville University as Department Chair in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. I am also the Coordinator for Student Teaching and for Early Field Experiences. In May 2006, I was Department Chair in Elementary and Early Childhood Education and the Coordinator for Student Teaching
- 2. In these capacities, among other responsibilities, I work with school districts to oversee placement of student teachers for secondary, elementary and special education. I am also responsible for planning orientation meetings for student teachers who will begin student teaching.
- 3. On or about May 12, 2006, Stacy Snyder came to see me in my capacity as Coordinator for Student Teaching. I had never met her before.
- 4. Ms. Snyder advised me that she had been removed from Conestoga Valley High School, where she had been student teaching. I also learned that she had not passed student teaching.
- 5. Because she had not passed student teaching, pursuant to Millersville academic requirements, she was not eligible to receive a B.S.Ed. from Millersville.
- 6. Pursuant to Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE") policies, to receive initial teaching certification, a student must satisfactorily complete student teaching by passing all four categories in form PDE-430: Planning and Preparation, Classroom Environment, Instructional Delivery and Professionalism. Because Ms. Snyder had not passed student teaching, she was not eligible to receive initial teaching certification from PDE.

- 7. Because of Millersville's academic requirements, I was not able to recommend her as eligible to receive a B.S.Ed. from Millersville.
- 8. In considering Ms. Snyder's options when she came to my office in May 2006, I reviewed her student teaching performance during the entire semester at Conestoga Valley High School. I reviewed Nicole Reinking's mid-term and final evaluations and her written observations of Ms. Snyder made during the semester, Barry Girvin's mid-term and final evaluations (both the Millersville evaluations and the PDE-430) and his written observations of plaintiff made during the semester. These documents indicated plaintiff's unsatisfactory performance as a student teacher. I had no role whatsoever in the preparation of any of these evaluations.
- 9. I was concerned that Conestoga Valley administrators had barred Ms. Snyder from entering the school except for the final conference. In the past, other students who have been barred from entering the cooperating school have also not passed student teaching.
- 10. Plaintiff's internet posting, the so-called "drunken pirate" picture and accompanying text did not play any role in my decision.
- 12. I had no concern that if we did not take action towards Ms. Snyder that Conestoga Valley would not permit future Millersville students to student teach there.
- 13. After Ms. Snyder and I spoke, I referred her to Dr. Beverly Schneller, who is Chair of Millersville's English Department to see if it could be arranged that Ms. Snyder receive a B.A.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing facts are true and correct.

Millersville, PA

DATED:

4/1/08

Judith Wenrich



MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

A GUIDE FOR STUDENT TEACHING

OFFICE OF FIELD SERVICES MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

P. O. BOX 1002 MILLERSVILLE, PA 17551-0302 (717) 871-5752

Revised, Summer 2005



Dean of Education 717-872-3379 FAX: 717-872-3856

January 18, 2006

Dear Millersville University Cooperating Teacher:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your willingness to assist Millersville University by serving in the most critical position of a cooperating teacher in the preparation of new teachers. Your role as a cooperating teacher is highly valued by all at Millersville University; however, too often and unintentionally, we are remiss in showing our profuse appreciation for your work. The most significant semester of our teacher preparation programs is successful because of your willingness to share your time, your expertise and your focus for supporting a great profession.

Enclosed, you will locate two items that I hope you will be able to review with your student teachers. The first is a revised schedule for the Spring 2006 student teaching semester. Of special note, the student teaching interviewing session date was changed from the earlier schedule that you received. The opportunity for our teacher candidates to hear about the important skill of interviewing is first detailed in a large group presentation by one of our local superintendents, Mr. Don Stewart. His presentation is followed by placing our teacher candidates into smaller sections according to disciplines. Mock interviews are conducted in these smaller sessions by local principals and curriculum supervisors. We are pleased to offer the interviewing session once again to all of our teacher candidates.

The second enclosure is a quick snapshot of our conceptual framework entitled Communities of Learners. This framework is the result of two years of work that involved faculty at the university, teacher candidates and practicing teachers and principals in the field. The main elements of our framework are the three themes you see listed on the enclosed card. Please feel free to discuss the themes with your student teacher. You are also encouraged to reference the themes in your written observations of your student teacher. Finally, if you are interested in viewing the entire framework, you may visit the School of Education web site at http://muweb.millersville.edu/~deaneduc/ where you can locate the framework on the left side under the heading of Professional Education Unit Information.

I would like to thank you again for sharing your expertise in the development of new teachers for our PK-12 students. Should you have questions, issues or concerns during this semester or at any other time, please do not hesitate to contact me directly or the university supervisor who is working with you.

With appreciation,

Dr. Jane S. Bray

Dean, School of Education

/cjs

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QUICK REFERENCE

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF:

SITUATION: Illness or family emergencies such as illness in family, funeral, etc.

CALL: Cooperating Teacher and University Supervisor.

ACTION: Follow the instructions on Pages 7 and 8 under 'Attendance of Student Teachers'.

SITUATION: Anticipated absences such as job interview, observations in other schools.

ACTION: Follow the instructions on Pages 7 and 8 under 'Attendance of Student Teachers'.

SITUATION: In-Service Days or Meeting.

ACTION: Attend if district permits or make arrangements with your cooperating teacher to

work in the classroom.

SITUATION: Inclement weather conditions which impede travel.

ACTION: Listen to radio or TV reports which announce whether or not your assigned school

district is open or delayed. Follow your district's schedule.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Student Teaching Office	871-5752	student.teaching@millersville.edu
Student Teaching Fax	871-2034	
University Supervisor #1		
University Supervisor #2		
Cooperating Teacher #1		
Cooperating Teacher #2		
School Office #1		
School Office #2		

NOTE: Numbers must be obtained from the University Supervisors, Cooperating Teachers, and Schools. ALWAYS check with your Cooperating Teacher and University Supervisor regarding proper procedure and permission to call the person at home.

Student Teaching Website......www.millersville.edu/~stutch

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

Millersville University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution. Coordinators: Services for Students with Disabilities - Mrs. Sherlynn Bessick, Director, Office of Learning Services, Lyle Hall, 717-872-3178; Title VI and Title IX - Ms. Patricia Hopson-Shelton, Assistant to the President for Social Equity and Diversity, Delaware House,717-872-3787; ADA Coordinator - Mr. Dale McCloud, Associate Vice President for Human Resources, Dilworth Building, 717-872-3017.

A Member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK - ABSTRACT

All members of the Millersville University Professional Education Unit will create learning communities of inquiry and action, focus on students, and demonstrate exemplary professional practices.

Learning Communities of Inquiry and Action	We will engage in learning communities in which reflection, collaboration, lifelong learning, and habits of mind are developed and nurtured.
Focus on Students	We will balance knowledge and the principles and concepts delineated in professional and state standards with an appreciation of all students' individuality, diversity, and cultures.
Exemplary Professional Practices	We will demonstrate the knowledge, skills and dispositions of exemplary professionals. We will have strong competence in our content knowledge, pedagogical content knowledge and skills as delineated in professional, state, and institutional standards. We will demonstrate professional dispositions or standards of conduct, will be supportive of students, families, and the school and community and will serve as catalysts for positive and responsible change.

To view the full text of the Conceptual Framework, visit the School of Education webpage at http://muweb.millersville.edu/~deaneduc/.

NOTE: The term *Students* in this document and the Mission and Vision Statement refer to school-age (pre-school to grade 12) students.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT

MISSION STATEMENT

The Professional Education Unit (PEU) is committed to the preparation and continuing development of education professionals (e.g., teachers, school leaders, and professional support personnel). The core of basic preparation includes a steadfast commitment to a liberal-arts based education, a strong knowledge of pedagogy and content, provision of ample field experiences, and the development of dispositions befitting an education professional. The PEU is committed to providing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its students with professionals who are able to assume their roles and responsibilities as educators in a diverse and technologically complex society; who are able to understand and appreciate students as individuals; who develop habits of mind that support inquiry, reflection, and collaboration; and who demonstrate professional standards of conduct including a strong sense of ethics and the motivation to seek opportunities that foster professional and personal growth. The PEU is committed to serve as a resource for the communities in the region through the application of scholarship efforts and service.

VISION STATEMENT

We envision the Professional Education Unit (PEU) at Millersville University to be exemplary in the preparation of education professionals who recognize, respect, and respond to the promise of every child, seek to better the lives of individuals in a changing and complex society, and improve society through the education process. We envision generations of learners within the community, where PEU faculty and school partners support and guide future education professionals; where new education professionals support and guide their P-12 students and become partners in the preparation of future educators; and where, subsequently, their students become responsible, valued, and giving members of the community.

Adopted, 2005

STUDENT TEACHING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The overall policies in regard to student teaching are determined by the various teacher education departments, with the approval of the Dean of the School of Education. The administration of student teaching is a joint responsibility of the Coordinator of Field Services and the education faculty of the Professional Educational Unit.

Assignment of Student Teachers

Assignments for student teaching locations are made by the Coordinator in cooperation with university departmental personnel, and administrators and teachers in cooperating school districts. Student Teachers are assigned to Cooperating Teachers, not to schools or school districts. Student Teachers are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from their school assignment.

Time Element in Student Teaching

Student teaching typically occurs during a student's seventh or eighth semester. The choice of semester is determined by: number of credits completed and departmental recommendation; satisfactory completion of all Advanced Professional Studies requirements; completion of all professional education courses (see University catalog); time of graduation; and the availability of Cooperating Teachers and University Supervisors. The Student Teacher is required to follow the school's daily schedule unless otherwise noted on the Millersville University Student Teaching calendar.

Professional Conduct

The Student Teacher is a guest of the cooperating school. As a future member of the teaching profession, the Student Teacher needs to maintain the same professional standards expected of the teaching employees of the cooperating school. The Student Teacher is recognized as a representative of the University by the students, faculty, and community to which he/she is assigned.

The Student Teacher is urged to accept every task as a potential learning experience, to fulfill as effectively as possible every role of the classroom teacher, and to develop his/her own educational philosophy which will be consistent with the principles of a democratic society.

The Student Teacher is expected to be well-groomed and appropriately dressed as a member of the teaching profession and to adhere to the Pennsylvania Code of Professional Ethics. (Appendix B)

The Student Teacher must continue to adhere to the MU Student Code of Conduct throughout his/her field experience. The code is on the Millersville website, search: Student Handbook/Policies/Student Code of Conduct.

The Coordinator, in consultation with the Cooperating Teacher and the University Supervisor, has the authority to change or terminate the Student Teacher's assignment if professional conduct is not maintained.

Additional Responsibilities Beyond Teaching

Student Teachers are urged not to take any courses during the semester in which they student teach. Under no circumstances may more than one course be taken. Student Teachers are also urged to reduce and/or eliminate their involvement in campus activities and outside employment. IN NO WAY SHOULD EITHER ACTIVITIES OR WORK INTERFERE WITH THE STUDENT TEACHER'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO HIS/HER TEACHING ASSIGNMENT.

Attendance of Student Teachers

During the semester of student teaching, each Student Teacher is expected to be in the assigned classroom every day the school is in session. The Student Teacher will follow the school calendar and the calendar furnished by the Office of Field Services. Any exceptions to the school district or student teaching calendars will be announced to all students and Cooperating Teachers uniformly. Student Teachers are expected to attend in-service meetings, faculty meetings, and special school events (e.g. Parent-Teacher Conferences, I.E.P. Conferences, Open Houses).

IF YOU ARE ABSENT FOR ANY REASON, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE YOUR COOPERATING TEACHER HAS ANY PLANS AND TEACHING MATERIALS/MANUALS NEEDED TO OPERATE THAT CLASS DURING YOUR ABSENCE.

- 1. If ill, call your Cooperating Teacher and University Supervisor.
- 2. If an emergency arises, contact your Cooperating Teacher and University Supervisor.

STUDENT TEACHING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- 3. No unexcused absences are permitted during the semester of student teaching. University Supervisors may require make-up time in instances of excessive absences, regardless of cause. A Cooperating Teacher should call the University Supervisor immediately if a Student Teacher does not report that day.
- 4. Any Student Teacher who finds it necessary to be excused for reasons other than emergencies (job interviews are the most frequent) must receive permission from his/her Cooperating Teacher and University Supervisor by completing the absentee form (Appendix A) and submitting it to the Office of Field Experiences.
- 5. If inclement weather conditions (e.g., snow) exist, listen to radio/television reports and follow the district's schedule. Do not call your school.

Use of Student Teachers as Substitute Teachers

"A substitute teacher must hold a valid Pennsylvania certificate to teach in Pennsylvania public schools. Since Student Teachers normally do not hold a valid certificate, their assignments as substitute teachers violate the school code. Those teacher educators involved with student teaching should advise Student Teachers to avoid substitute teacher assignments, as they may find themselves in legal jeopardy." Pennsylvania Department of Education Memo 14, dated July 1975.

If a Cooperating Teacher becomes ill and the principal of the school asks a Student Teacher to cover the class for up to one hour, under the supervision of another teacher, until a substitute arrives, that brief substitution would not appear to break the law. Compensation for substitution is forbidden.

If a Cooperating Teacher is absent, a qualified substitute teacher will be assigned to his/her duties. When a substitute is in the classroom, the Student Teacher should not be given responsibility in addition to that which he/she has already assumed at that stage in the student teaching assignment. For example, if a Student Teacher is responsible for about one-third of the schedule, the substitute should not tell the Student Teacher to "take over the full load."

Under no circumstances should a Student Teacher be assigned as a substitute teacher to cover another teacher's classroom schedule or lunch, hall, bus, study hall, or recess duty.

University policy prohibits the release of the Student Teacher to accept a teaching position prior to successful completion of his/her student teaching. Receiving compensation for student teaching is also forbidden.

Solo Teaching

Student teaching is a developmental process in which the student teacher gradually assumes increasing classroom responsibilities, leading to an eventual "solo" experience. The decision on how and when to increase a Student Teacher's classroom responsibilities is a JOINT DECISION, involving all three key participants - the Cooperating Teacher, the Student Teacher, and the University Supervisor. Likewise, the decision when to begin and end the "solo" portion of the assignment is a JOINT DECISION by these three participants. It is the University's expectation that all three individuals will develop effective communication channels so these decisions can be made with careful deliberation.

Disruption in Schools

The policy of Millersville University in disruptive situations, i.e., strikes by professional employees or students, is to remove Student Teachers from their assignments at the discretion of the Coordinator. The Student Teachers will not return until the operation of school is resumed on a normal basis. Should the period of disruption become extensive, the Coordinator may reassign the Student Teachers to other locations.

Transporting Students

No Student Teacher should transport any school students in any vehicle. This prohibition extends to field trips and overnight trips (which the Student Teacher should only attend if accompanied by the Cooperating Teacher).

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to receive an initial teaching certificate in Pennsylvania, a Millersville University candidate must...

- 1. Complete all requirements of an approved Millersville University education program, including those for admission into Advanced Professional Studies (APS).
- 2. Complete the program with a cumulative Millersville University GPA of 3.0*.
- 3. Satisfactorily complete student teaching.
- 4. Earn a Bachelor's Degree or higher.
- 5. Pass all required PRAXIS examinations and have the scores submitted by ETS to Millersville University.
- 6. Complete an application for certification and submit it, with money order or *certified* check, to the Certification Office in the School of Education at least 8 weeks before program completion.

Once passing PRAXIS scores are received and 'Degree is Conferred' by the Registrar's Office, the MU Certification Office will submit the application to Harrisburg.

The Bureau of Teacher Preparation and Certification, Harrisburg, PA will send the teaching certificate directly to the candidate approximately 6 weeks later.

Before receiving the teaching certificate, a successful candidate who: [1] submits a DAR's that states "<u>ALL REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET</u>" and [2] has had all PRAXIS exam passing scores submitted to MU may obtain a verification letter from the MU Certification Office for substitute teaching purposes only.

The candidate must complete the 'Request for Verification' form, attach a final DAR's, and submit it to the Certification Office after the last day of the semester.

- *This cumulative grade point average is aligned with Title 22 Chapter 354 for Pennsylvania and is established at the time of the Candidate's admission to Advanced Professional Studies (APS).
 - a. Academic Year 2003 and after: 3.0 GPA
 - b. Academic Year 2002-2003: 2.8 GPA
 - c. Academic Year 2001-2002: 2.6 GPA

C. Ridley & D. Groff, 6-7-05

FOR STUDENT TEACHING REQUIREMENTS REFER TO YOUR DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC SUPPLEMENT

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT TEACHER

It is the Student Teacher's responsibility to become part of the Community of Learners in the school.

Professional Interactions

Demonstration of Professional Dispositions

- Show enthusiasm for teaching, initiative and drive for best performance.
- Present a professional appearance and a high quality of verbal and written communication.
- Exemplify punctuality, thorough preparation, confidentiality, and ongoing personal learning.

Orientation to the school

- Adhere to faculty regulations: school day, dress code, use of equipment, parking, and emergency procedures.
- Meet school staff: principal, secretary, grade-level and support teachers, support staff.
- Locate all special services within the school.
- Learn all procedures for daily activities: school, classroom, and laboratory safety rules, school records, managements systems, and access to services.

Open Communication

- Have daily conversations with your Cooperating Teacher about instructional procedures, curricular issues, classroom management, and student characteristics and performance.
- Maintain frequent verbal and written communication with University Supervisor.
- Have effective interaction with all professionals and support staff to enhance the educational process for your students.

Preparation

Daily Planning

- Prepare lesson plans several days in advance, and have them approved by your Cooperating Teacher.
- Base instruction on state and local standards and established curriculum or individualized plans.

Comprehensiveness

- Construct plans based on most current pedagogy and technology.
- Have all materials organized and easy to retrieve.

Teaching

Take teaching responsibility early in the assignment

- Follow your Cooperating Teacher's lead in performing instructional practices.
- Volunteer to assume teaching tasks for individuals and small groups early in the assignment.
- Gradually increase teaching duties until you are totally responsible for daily instruction.
- Use current, research-based, and innovative methodologies.
- Research educational journals and other media in order to enhance lesson content and methodology.
- Follow a well-designed plan for lesson structure, student activities, and evaluation procedures.
- Adapt methodology to meet diverse student learning styles and special needs.
- Integrate technology into all phases of planning, teaching, and assessment.
- Perform formative and summative assessments throughout the instructional process.
- As your confidence increases, try unique and innovative teaching procedures.

Student Interactions

Build student rapport

- Learn students' names, learning styles, special needs and effective grouping practices.
- Support students with self-management and by setting clear expectations.
- Honor student individuality, diversity, linguistic and cultural factors.

Build family rapport

- Show respect to all families and significant individuals important to your students.
- Involve parents through on-going communication, in exchanging information, and by seeking sincere
 input.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COOPERATING TEACHER

Before the Student Teacher arrives

- Inform the students, parents, and building personnel of the Student Teacher's arrival.
- Collect district, building, classroom, and curricular materials for the Student Teacher.
- Provide a work and storage space.
- Develop a tentative schedule that will enable the Student Teacher to gradually assume teaching and other responsibilities.

Orientation

- Introduce the Student Teacher to the principal and all significant personnel within the building.
- Share gathered materials including classroom management and evaluation systems.
- Discuss expectations, building regulations, and use of building and classroom equipment.
- · Formalize the Student Teacher's schedule with input from the University Supervisor and Student Teacher

Modeling, assistance and observation

- Explain developmental and unique learning characteristics of your students.
- Model instructional procedures and encourage discussion about pedagogy.
- Provide opportunities for the Student Teacher to observe your teaching, parent conferences if appropriate, and instructional support procedures.
- Provide opportunities for the Student Teacher to collaborate with personnel responsible for supporting students with special needs and those who are linguistically and/or culturally diverse.
- Confer with your Student Teacher on a daily basis and frequently provide written and verbal feedback.
- Interact with the University Supervisor when he/she visits and by phone or e-mail whenever successes and concerns arise.
- Complete an MU Mid-Placement Student Teaching Formative Evaluation, and an MU Student Teaching Final
 Evaluation. Only the MU Student Teaching <u>Final</u> Evaluation is submitted to the University Supervisor to be
 delivered to the Field Services Office and placed into the student's permanent file.

Important factors about pre-service teaching

- Remember that student teaching is a formative process in which the teacher candidate will steadily gain proficiency.
- Offer the Student Teacher increased opportunities to acquire responsibility.
- Assist the Student Teacher in developing lessons, seeking resources, and managing student behavior.
- Encourage creative and unique teaching techniques.
- Confer with the University Supervisor on an ongoing basis and before completing the mid-term and final evaluations.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY SUPERVISOR

To the Cooperating Teacher

- Explain the Conceptual Framework, university policies, and the evaluation process.
- Serve as an ambassador promoting university goals and procedures with the Cooperating Teacher and the Student Teacher.
- Provide leadership to initiate and maintain the professional relationship between the School, University, and the Student Teacher.
- Communicate frequently with the Cooperating Teacher concerning Student Teacher progress and inform the Coordinator of Field Services of any concerns.

To the Student Teacher

- Meet prior to the beginning of the assignment, fully explain the role and responsibilities of the Student Teacher and conduct periodic seminars, as needed, to enhance the student teaching experience.
- Encourage ongoing professional dialogue with the Cooperating Teacher.
- Observe the Student Teacher in a variety of classes/subjects a minimum of three times in a half semester or six times in a full-semester assignment.
- Provide advice and resource recommendations to promote effective teaching practices.
- Provide written and verbal feedback on each observation and be available for additional communications throughout the assignment.
- Provide honest, tactful, and constructive praise and criticism of the Student Teacher's performance.
- Complete evaluations as listed below and submit a final grade for the Student Teacher.
 - For a half-semester assignment: complete an MU Mid-Placement Student Teaching Formative Evaluation, an MU Student Teaching Final Evaluation, and one PDE 430 evaluation.
 - o For a **full-semester assignment**: complete an MU Mid-Placement Student Teaching Formative Evaluation, a mid-assignment PDE 430 evaluation, an MU Student Teaching Final Evaluation, and a final PDE 430 evaluation.

TEACHING AND CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

The goal of effective classroom management is to provide positive supports so that each student may fully participate as a responsible and valued member of your learning community. To attain this goal, the Student Teacher should observe and work with the Cooperating Teacher's classroom and laboratory standards to identify appropriate plans and professional practices for his or her own teaching experiences. As you work toward attaining this management goal, you are demonstrating our conceptual framework themes: learning communities of inquiry and action, focus on students, and exemplary professional practices; and helping us to fulfill our mission.

To assist you in developing your teaching management skills, consider the following:

- Define and explain expectations.
- Let your students know when they are meeting your academic or behavior expectations.
- Use prompts, cues and reminders to assist your students to support them in meeting the standards.
- Consider the physical classroom arrangement and the impact this may have on student learning and student behavior. Make certain:
 - o All students can see instructional areas
 - o Materials are accessible
 - o Students are seated away from distracters
- Set management standards for your lessons using student input as appropriate.
 - Phrase the standards as positives.
 - o Post the standards and review them regularly with your students.
- Focus upon your professional delivery.
 - o Maintain an even and well modulated voice.
 - o Avoid 'Do you want to...?' questions if students do not have an option.
 - o Use pauses and dramatic delivery to get students' attention or emphasize information.
 - o Deliver directions as polite declarative statements, not as hesitant interrogatives.
- Develop management plans (for groupings, material dissemination, transition times, etc.)
 concurrent with your lesson plans. Resorting to management plans after a lesson doesn't go
 smoothly is not proactive or supportive.
- Establish positive connections by using your students' names during classroom interactions.
- Identify and respect the individual needs and differences of all of your students.
- Be consistent.
- Involve all of your students in active learning as appropriate.
- Eliminate threats, promises, and bluffs from your teaching management repertoire.
- Continuously attempt to stretch your teaching management skills repertoire.
 - o Attend to positives and try ignoring inappropriate or challenging behaviors.
 - Reflect upon and identify positive strengths in each of your students on an ongoing basis.

C. Ridley & L. West, 5-18-05

PLANNING FOR INSTRUCTION

Planning is an absolute necessity for any teacher to accomplish the professional aspect of teaching. NO ATTEMPT AT TEACHING SHOULD BE MADE WITHOUT PROPER PLANNING. To plan effectively, a teacher must be aware of all aspects of a curriculum. Student Teachers, while not responsible for an entire year's curriculum, should be introduced to the scope and sequence of a year's work.

It is important that the University Supervisor and the Student Teacher discuss the appropriate lesson plan format for each particular Student Teacher. Refer to the discipline-specific supplement to acquire the specific formats suggested in your program.

Typically, lesson plans include the following (or similar) components:

- Goal and State or District Standards
- Lesson Objectives
- Materials and Resources
- Procedures, including:
 - o Introduction
 - Teacher Instructional Methods
 - Student Activities
 - Special Adaptations to Meet Individual Needs
 - o Closure
- Methods for assessing and documenting student performance.
- Self-Reflection.

Instructional Unit Planning, Teacher Work Sample, CIRQL Project

Instructional unit planning provides an opportunity to use professional skills in designing, assessing, and reflecting upon instruction in a particular subject area. Student Teachers are responsible for organizing a series of learning activities to accomplish instructional unit planning in a particular subject area.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT TEACHING

Each discipline has its own student teaching evaluation form.

The student teaching evaluation form has components that are consistent with all disciplines and those that are specific to each discipline. Common elements across disciplines are the following:

- 1. Specific emphasis on Professionalism, Preparation, Teaching Performance, and Effect on Student Learning.
- 2. Criteria focus on Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions under each area.
- 3. A common rating scale described below.

Rating Scale for the Millersville Mid-Placement Student Teaching Formative Evaluation

- **G** = GOOD progress evidenced. You are building a sound foundation. Continued on-going development is expected.
- **R** = REASONABLE progress evidenced. Continued on-going development is expected.
- A = ADDITIONAL attention needed. Seek additional feedback and improvement in this area.
- N = NEEDS significant remediation. There is need to develop specific plans for improvement and to demonstrate significant improvements in this area.
- L = LIMITED opportunity to demonstrate this point.

Please refer to the discipline-specific form for your major.

Each discipline has a student teaching evaluation form that includes items relevant to the Professional Education Unit and items specific to the major. The forms are contained in the supplements related to each area. Fall 2005 is the first semester the forms will be used. Student Teachers are encouraged to discuss the new evaluation forms with the University Supervisor.

The PDE 430 is completed ONLY by the University Supervisor



Using the Pennsylvania Statewide Evaluation Form for Student Professional Knowledge and Practice— Pennsylvania Department of Education—PDE-430

HEADING AND SIGNATURE PAGE

- 1. The heading of the evaluation form contains biographical information regarding the Student Teacher/candidate being evaluated and the evaluation period.
- 2. The subjects being taught and the grade level should be clearly listed.
- 3. Write the date on which the conference was held between the Student Teacher/candidate and the evaluator on the signature page of the PDE-430 form.
- 4. Clearly state the school year and the term in the appropriate place on the signature page.

CATEGORIES OF EVALUATION

- 1. PDE 430 has 4 major categories addressing evaluation of Student Teacher/candidate:
 - i. Category I- Planning and Preparation
 - ii. Category II- Classroom Environment
 - iii. Category III-Instructional Delivery
 - iv. Category IV-Professionalism

Each category has Student Teacher/candidate performance indicators that support the category's evaluation on a continuum from Exemplary through Unsatisfactory. The "Student Teacher/Candidate's Performance Appropriately Demonstrates" indicators are the criteria for the evaluation. Both the evaluator and the Student Teacher/candidate must be aware of the performance indicators being used in the evaluation before the evaluation takes place.

Each PDE 430 Category, I through IV, includes an explanation of the various aspects of teaching that aid in the further definition of the category.

LEVELS OF PROFICIENCY IN THE CATEGORIES

- The categories presented on the PDE 430 provide knowledge, to the evaluator and the Student Teacher/candidate,
 of performance expectations and the required levels of proficiency for each category. The category's results, are
 evaluated through the review of the defined "Student Teacher/Candidate's Performance Demonstrates" indicators
 in each of the four categories.
- 2. The Student Teacher/candidate's demonstrated performance indicators in each category should be checked or highlighted in a manner to assist the evaluator in determining the appropriate level of proficiency. The judgment of the performance for the rating of any category is based on:

- the rater's overall evaluation of performance in each category and
- is not dependent on seeing each single performance indicator demonstrated successfully in order to receive a high level evaluation.

SOURCES OF EVIDENCE

- 1. The sources of evidence, gathered by the Student Teacher/candidate and the evaluator, should be considered by the evaluator to make a judgment about the Student Teacher/candidate's performance/level of proficiency.
- 2. It is also the responsibility of the Student Teacher/candidate to ensure the availability of evidence required for each of the categories evaluated. The evaluator and the Student Teacher/candidate will share the sources at the conference date. The evaluator will mark, on the form next to the source of evidence, pertinent pieces of evidence that were reviewed during the evaluation of a Student Teacher/candidate's performance/level of proficiency.
- 3. Since the evaluation form serves as a recordkeeping device in support of the recommendation for a successful performance assessment, it is important that the evaluator specify, next to the source of evidence, any evidence considered so that the Student Teacher, and other administrators reviewing the form, may have a sense of what was used to arrive at a judgment on the level of proficiency.
- 4. Sources of evidence should have, where appropriate, written dates that the source of evidence occurred: for example, the date of the planning document or dates of classroom observations/visits. Types of evidence reviewed can be listed as well as titles, for example, Back-to-School Night presentation. It should include the number of sources; for example if seven pieces of student work were collected for a particular source of evidence, that number should be included.
- The space following each source of evidence allows an evaluator to document the important source(s) that were
 considered and captures the essential information about the source. If further space is required, an additional sheet
 may be attached.

JUSTIFICATION FOR EVALUTION

- After reviewing the results of the Student Teacher/candidate's performance indicators in each category, and the
 pertinent sources of evidence, the assessor will make a judgment for each category on the PDE 430. The
 appropriate box is then checked.
- 2. This is a key section as it provides the Student Teacher with a clear understanding of the evaluator's decision based on observations and other specific sources of evidence. This section also provides further explanation of why the Student Teacher is receiving a particular rating for the category. The evaluator's comments help to focus the Student Teacher on his/her specific strengths and areas for improvement. It is important to write statements that are clear, consistent, and specify key areas for improvement, if required.

The justification section may be expanded to whatever length the rater feels necessary to help the Student Teacher/candidate understand the rating, the reasons for it and steps that can be taken to improve performance, whenever required.

EVALUATION

- 1. The evaluation/signature page of the PDE 430 includes the school year and term during which the observation occurred. An appropriate overall judgment of the Student Teacher/candidate's demonstrated performance will be made and checked, resulting in either a particular level of proficiency.
- 2. The signature of the evaluator, usually the Student Teacher/candidate's supervisor, must be included. In addition, the signature of the Student Teacher/candidate and the appropriate signature dates must also be included. The Student Teacher/candidate does not have to agree with the judgments or statements of the evaluator in order to sign the form. The Student Teacher/candidate is obligated to sign the form once the evaluator has shared the

contents of the form with the Student Teacher/candidate. Student Teacher/candidate may annotate the form with "I disagree with this rating."

3. The Overall Justification for Evaluation section should specify any key areas for improvement, when used for the first assessment, and provide the Student Teacher with a clear understanding of the evaluator's overall judgment of the their performance. All written sections may be expanded in size in order to fully express the observations and recommendations to the Student Teacher/candidate. Additional pages may be added if necessary.

The level of proficiency indicated in each of the 4 categories were added to determine an overall rating/level of proficiency for the entire PDE 430 form and the single rating period. At least a satisfactory rating must have been achieved in each of the 4 categories.

The certifying officer must now verify that the candidate has achieved at least a satisfactory rating on the PDE 430 by so indicating on the PDE 338C, College/University Verification Form, which is used to recommend a candidate to the Commonwealth for certification.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Each Student Teacher/candidate must be observed and evaluated using the PDE 430 a minimum of two times
 during their student teaching experience--once at the midpoint, and once at the end.
 Note that this is a minimum number of times and further evaluations may be
 completed, as the college/university desires. For example, if a candidate has two separate
 student teaching assignments, they may be observed at the midpoint and end of each
 assignment.
- All evaluations with the PDE 430 are considered to be formative with the exception of the final one, which is
 considered to be the summative evaluation. All others are used in order to give the Student Teacher/candidate an
 opportunity to correct or improve any deficiencies.
 - The PDE 430 assessment instrument must be used a minimum of two times. A satisfactory rating (1) in each of the 4 categories, resulting in a minimum total of at least (4) points, must be achieved on the final summative rating to favorably complete the overall assessment. Note that all categories must have achieved at least a satisfactory rating in all cases.
- 3. A copy of the PDE 430 is kept in the Student Teacher/candidate's college file. Student Teacher/candidate's should have a copy of their completed PDE-430. However, copies of the PDE 430 should not be provided by the college to outside agencies, prospective employers, or other individuals, in any situation, as this in an internal document. The PDE 430 is a confidential document. Copies of the PDE 430 will be reviewed during state major program reviews.

Division of Teacher Education 717-787-3470 Bureau of Teacher Certification and Preparation Pennsylvania Department of Education (8/1/03)

Pennsylvania Statewide Evaluation Form for Student Professional Knowledge and Practice

Student's La	st Name	First	Middle	Social Securi	ty Number
Subject(s) T	aught			Gra	de Level
specific time		ed on specific criter			ance evaluation during a ng the 12-week (minimum)
		PF	ERFORMANCE EVAL	LUATION	
teaching for indicate the evaluation f gain the sign Category I: Pla	each of the sources of ever each of the nature of the nature and Prepared	four categories used vidence used to deto e four categories an Student Teacher. paration—Student Teacl	d in this form. Check ermine the evaluation and then assign an over ther demonstrates thorough l	of the results in each ca all evaluation of perfor knowledge of content and per	of student teaching, and
their instructio Alignment: 354	nal content.	•		,	
1. Knov 2. Knov 3. Knov 4. Knov 5. Use 6. Instri 7. Asset	wledge of content wledge of pedago wledge of Pennsy wledge of studen of resources, mat actional goals the ssment of studen	ogy Alvania's K-12 Academic ts and how to use this kn terials, or technology ava- at show a recognizable se t learning aligned to the	Standards owledge to impart instruction ilable through the school or di equence with adaptations or in instructional goals and adapte		
Sources of Evid	lence (Check all	that apply and include da	ates, types/titles and number)		
☐ Lesso	n/Unit Plans			Student Teacher Interviews	
☐ Resor	arces/Materials/1	「∝hnology		Classroom Observations	
☐ Asses	sment Materials			Resource Documents	
☐ Inform	nation about Stu	dents		Other	
Category	Exc	emplary 3 Points	Superior 2 Points	Satisfactory I Point	Unsatisfactory 0 Points
Criteria for Rat	con	candidate sistently and roughly demonstrates icators of performance.	The candidate usually and extensively demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate sometimes and adequately demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate rarely or never and inappropriately or superficially demonstrates indicators of performance.
Rating (indicate ✓)					
Justification for	Evaluation				

Student's Last Nan	ne First	Middle	Social Secur	ity Number
	cted, by instituting routines an			or learning, in which students feel
 Expectations 	rmance appropriately demonstra for student achievement with va	alue placed on the quality of stu	udent work	
	equitable learning opportunities interactions between teacher and			
 Effective class 	ssroom routines and procedures	resulting in little or no loss of i	nstructional time	
	ds of conduct and effective man		under the control of the Stude	ent Teacher
	ablish and maintain rapport with			
·	heck all that apply and include of	,		
	oservations		Visual Technology	
 Informal Obs 	ervations/Visits		Resources/Materials/Techn	ology/Space
☐ Student Teach	ner Interviews		Other	
	Exemplary 3 Points	Superior 2 Points	Satisfactory 1 Point	Unsatisfactory 0 Points
	The candidate consistently and	The candidate usually and extensively demonstrates	The candidate sometimes and adequately	The candidate rarely or never and inappropriately or superficially
		indicators of performance.	demonstrates indicators of	demonstrates indicators of
	thoroughly demonstrates		performance.	performance.
Criteria for Rating				
Criteria for Rating	thoroughly demonstrates			
Criteria for Rating Rating indicate	thoroughly demonstrates indicators of performance.			
Category Criteria for Rating Rating indicate ✓) Justification for Evalua	thoroughly demonstrates indicators of performance.			

PDE 430

Commonwealth of Pe	nnsylvania DEPA	ARTMENT OF EDUCAT	TION 333 Market	St., Harrisburg, PA	17126-0333
Student's Last Name	First	Middle	Social Secur	ity Number	
Student's Last Name	rust	Middle	Social Secur	ity Number	
Category III: Student Te using a variety of instruct Alignment: 354.33 (1) (i)	ctional strategies.	of content and their pedagogy	and skill in delivering instr	uction engages in learn	ing by
Student Teacher's perform	nance appropriately demonstra	ites:			
Instructional go Communication	oals reflecting Pennsylvania K n of procedures and clear expe		•	ividual student needs	
5. Use of question 6. Engagement of 7: Feedback to stu 8. Use of information	ning and discussion strategies students in learning and adeq idents on their learning	that encourage many students t	o participate		
	responsiveness in meeting the isciplines within the education				
Sources of Evidence (Che	ck all that apply and include	dates, types/titles and number)			
☐ Classroom Obse	ervations		Student Assignment Sheets	S	_ [
☐ Informal Observ	vations/Visits		Student Work		_
☐ Assessment Mai	terials		Instructional Resources/Ma	aterials/Technology	_
☐ Student Teacher	Interviews		Other		-
Category	Exemplary 3 Points	Superior 2 Points	Satisfactory 1 Point	Unsatisfactory 0 Pol	nts
Criteria for Rating	The candidate consistently and thoroughly demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate usually and extensively demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate sometimes and adequately demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate rarely or inappropriately or supe demonstrates indicators performance.	never and erficially
Rating (indicate ✓)					
Justification for Evaluation)n				
					{
					1

PDE 430

Student's Last Nan	ne First	Middle	Social Securi	ity Number
Category IV-Student lassroom/building. Alignment: 354.33 (1)	Teacher demonstrates qualitie	s that characterize a professi	onal person in aspects that o	occur in and beyond the
student Teacher's perfo	rmance appropriately demonstrat	tes:		
 Knowledge of Knowledge of Knowledge of 	of school and district procedures of school or district requirements of school and/or district events of district or college's professional ethical behavior, professional co	for maintaining accurate records growth and development act	ds and communicating with fair vities	
local state, at 6. Effective cor 7. Ability to cu	nd federal laws and regulations	en, with students, colleagues, p with school colleagues	paraprofessionals, related servi	ce personnel, and administrators
ources of Evidence (C	Check all that apply and include d	lates, types/titles and number)		
☐ Classroom O	bservations		Student Assignment Sheets	
☐ Informal Obs	ervations/Visits		Student Work	
☐ Assessment N	Materials		Instructional Resources/Ma	terials/Technology
☐ Student Teac	her Interviews		Other	
Written Docu	mentation			
ategory	Exemplary 3 Points	Superior 2 Points	Satisfactory 1 Point	Unsatisfactory 0 Points
riteria for Rating	The candidate consistently and thoroughly demonstrates indicators of performance	The candidate usually and extensively demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate sometimes and adequately demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate rarely or never and inappropriately or superficially demonstrates indicators of performance.
ating ndicate ✓)				
stification for Evalua	ntion			

PDE 430

Overall Rating				
Category	Exemplary Minimum of 12 Points	Superior Minimum of 8 Points	Satisfactory Minimum of 4 Points	Unsatisfactory Less than 4 Points
Criteria for Rating	The candidate consistently and thoroughly demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate usually and extensively demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate sometimes and adequately demonstrates indicators of performance.	The candidate rarely or never and inappropriately or superficially demonstrates indicators of performance.
Rating (indicate √)				

Note: Candidates must achieve at least a satisfactory rating of 4 Points or above.

Justification for overall ra	ting:			
			PDE 43	0
Student's Last Name	First	Middle	Social Security Number	_
District/IU	School			
Interview/Conference Date		_		
School Year	Term			
Required Signatures:				
Supervisor/Evaluator			Date:	
Student Teacher		, 	Date:	

Appendix A

STUDENT TEACHING ABSENCE

I am requesting permission to be excused from student teaching for the dates and reasons described at the end of this request. I understand that I may be asked to make-up these dates/times at the end of my assignment in order to complete my student teaching obligation. I also understand that this request must be approved by my co-op, supervisor, and the Field Services Office. Failure to receive permission from all individuals will result in the request being denied.

Student Teacher:		Phone nu	ımber:
Dates of expected abse	nce:		
Reason for absence: _			
	Stud	dent Teacher signature /	Date
Please indicate t	he total number of absend	ces to date, including this	s one.
☐ Approved	☐ Denied	☐ Approved	☐ Denied
Cooperating Teacher		University Supervis	or
	☐ Approved	☐ Denied	
	Coordinator Field	Services	

Except in the case of illness, or an emergency, this form must be on file in the Field Services Office 5 days prior to the requested absence.

Appendix B

PENNSYLVANIA'S CODE OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND CONDUCT FOR EDUCATORS

Section 1. Mission

The Professional Standards and Practices Commission is committed to providing leadership for improving the quality of education in this Commonwealth by establishing high standards for preparation, certification, practice and ethical conduct in the teaching profession

Section 2. Introduction

- (a) Professional conduct defines interactions between the individual educator and students, the employing agencies and other professionals. Generally, the responsibility for professional conduct rests with the individual professional educator. However, in this Commonwealth, a Code of Professional Practice and Conduct (Code) for certificated educators is required by statute and violation of specified sections of the Code may constitute a basis for public or private reprimand. Violations of the Code may also be used as supporting evidence, though may not constitute an independent basis, for the suspension or revocation of a certificate. The Professional Standards and Practices Commission (PSPC) was charged by the act of December 12, 1973 (P.L. 397, No. 141) (24P.S. §§ 12-1251 12-1268), known as the Teacher Certification Law, with adopting a Code by July 1, 1991. See 24 P.S. § 12-1255(a)(10).
- (b) This chapter makes explicit the values of the education profession. When individuals become educators in this Commonwealth, they make a moral commitment to uphold these values.

Section 3. Purpose

- (a) Professional educators in this Commonwealth believe that the quality of their services directly influences the Nation and its citizens. Professional educators recognize their obligation to provide services and to conduct themselves in a manner which places the highest esteem on human rights and dignity. Professional educators seek to ensure that every student receives the highest quality of service and that every professional maintains a high level of competence from entry through ongoing professional development. Professional educators are responsible for the development of sound educational policy and obligated to implement that policy and its programs to the public.
- (b) Professional educators recognize their primary responsibility to the student and the development of the student's potential. Central to that development is the professional educator's valuing the worth and dignity of every person, student and colleague alike; the pursuit of truth; devotion to excellence; acquisition of knowledge; and democratic principles. To those ends, the educator engages in continuing professional development and keeps current with research and technology. Educators encourage and support the use of resources that best serve the interests and needs of students. Within the context of professional excellence, the educator and student together explore the challenge and the dignity of the human experience.

Section 4. Practices

- (a) Professional practices are behaviors and attitudes that are based on a set of values that the professional education community believes and accepts. These values are evidenced by the professional educator's conduct toward students and colleagues, and the educator's employer and community. When teacher candidates become professional educators in this Commonwealth, they are expected to abide by this section
- (b) Professional educators are expected to abide by the following:
- (1) Professional educators shall abide by the Public School Code of 1949 (24 P.S. §§ 1-101 27-2702), other school laws of the Commonwealth, sections 1201(a)(1), (2) and (4) and (b)(1), (2) and (4) of the Public Employee Relations Act (43 P.S. §§ 1101.1201(a)(1), (2) and (4) and (b)(1), (2), and (4) and this chapter.
- (2) Professional educators shall be prepared, and legally certified, in their areas of assignment. Educators may not be assigned or willingly accept assignments they are not certified to fulfill. Educators may be assigned to or accept assignments outside their certification area on a temporary, short-term, emergency basis. Examples: a teacher certified in English filling in a class period for a physical education teacher who has that day become ill; a substitute teacher certified in elementary education employed as a librarian for several days until the district can locate and employ a permanent substitute teacher certified in library science.

- (3) Professional educators shall maintain high levels of competence throughout their careers.
- (4) Professional educators shall exhibit consistent and equitable treatment of students, fellow educators and parents. They shall respect the civil rights of all and not discriminate on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, culture, religion, sex or sexual orientation, marital status, age, political beliefs, socioeconomic status, disabling condition or vocational interest. This list of bases or discrimination is not all-inclusive.
- (5) Professional educators shall accept the value of diversity in educational practice. Diversity requires educators to have a range of methodologies and to request the necessary tools for effective teaching and learning.
- (6) Professional educators shall impart to their students principles of good citizenship and societal responsibility.
- (7) Professional educators shall exhibit acceptable and professional language and communication skills. Their verbal and written communications with parents, students and staff shall reflect sensitivity to the fundamental human rights of dignity, privacy and respect.
- (8) Professional educators shall be open-minded, knowledgeable and use appropriate judgment and communication skills when responding to an issue within the educational environment.
- (9) Professional educators shall keeping confidence information obtained in confidence in the course of professional service unless required to be disclosed by law or by clear and compelling professional necessity as determined by the professional educator.
- (10) Professional educators shall exert reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions which interfere with learning or are harmful to the student's health and safety.

Section 5. Conduct

Individual professional conduct reflects upon the practices, values, integrity and reputation of the profession. Violation of §§ 235.6-235.11 may constitute an independent basis for private or public reprimand, and may be used as supporting evidence in cases of certification suspension and revocation.

Section 6: Legal obligations

- (a) The professional educator may not engage in conduct prohibited by the act of December 12, 1973 (P.L. 397, No. 141) (24 P.S. §§12-1251-12-1268), known as the Teacher Certification Law.
- (b) The professional educator may not engage in conduct prohibited by:
- (1) The Public School code of 1949 (24 P.S. §§ 1-101-27-2702) and other laws relating to the schools or the education of children.
- (2) The applicable laws of the Commonwealth establishing ethics of public officials and public employees, including the act of October 4, 1978 (P.L. 883, No. 170) (65 P.S. §§ 401-413), known as the Public Official and Employee Ethics Law.
- (c) Violation of subsection (b) shall have been found to exist by an agency of proper jurisdiction to be considered an independent basis for discipline.

Section 7. Certification

The professional educator may not:

- (1) Accept employment, when not properly certificated, in a position for which certification is required.
- (2) Assist entry into or continuance in the education profession of an unqualified person.
- (3) Employ, or recommend for employment, a person who is not certificated appropriately for the position.

Section 8. Civil Rights

The professional educator may not:

(1) Discriminate on the basis of race, National or ethnic origin, culture, religion, sex or sexual orientation, marital status, age, political beliefs, socioeconomic status; disabling condition or vocational interest against a student or fellow professional. This list of bases of discrimination is not all-inclusive. This discrimination shall be found to exist by an agency of proper jurisdiction to be considered an independent basis for discipline.

(2) Interfere with a student's or colleague's exercise of political and civil rights and responsibilities.

Section 9. Improper personal or financial gain

- (1) Accept gratuities, gifts or favors that might impair or appear to impair professional judgment.
- (2) Exploit a professional relationship for personal gain or advantage.

Section 10. Relationships with students

The professional educator may not:

- (1) Knowingly and intentionally distort or misrepresent evaluations of students.
- (2) Knowingly and intentionally misrepresent subject matter or curriculum.
- (3) Sexually harass or engage in sexual relationships with students.
- (4) Knowingly and intentionally withhold evidence from the proper authorities about violations of the legal obligations as defined within this section

Section 11. Professional relationships

The professional educator may not:

- (1) Knowingly and intentionally deny or impede a colleague in the exercise or enjoyment of a professional right or privilege in being an educator.
- (2) Knowingly and intentionally distort evaluations of colleagues.
- (3) Sexually harass a fellow employee.
- (4) Use coercive means or promise special treatment to influence professional decisions of colleagues.
- (5) Threaten, coerce or discriminate against a colleague who in good faith reports or discloses to a governing agency actual or suspected violations of law, agency regulations or standards.

EXHIBIT C

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

2 * * * *
3
STACY SNYDER, : CIVIL ACTION
4
Plaintiff :

5 :

vs. :

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY, J. :

7 BARRY GIRVIN, DR. JANE S. :

BRAY, and DR. VILAS A. :

8 PRABHU, in their individual :

and official capacities; and :

9 DR. JUDITH WENRICH and DR.

BEVERLY SCHNELLER,

10 Defendants : NO. 07-1660

11 * * *

Oral deposition of STACY SNYDER, taken at the office of MARK W. VOIGT, ESQUIRE, Plymouth Meeting Executive Campus, 600 West Germantown Pike, Suite 400, Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania, 19462, on Wednesday, March 12, 2008, beginning at approximately 9:40 a.m.,

17 before Krista L. Schultz, Registered Professional

18 Reporter and Notary Public.

19

1

20

21 * * *

PRECISION REPORTING, INC.

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Philadelphia, PA 19102

(215) 731-9847

24 1-800-528-3060

1	Page 2 APPEARANCES:	1	Page beginning of these things.
2	ATTEARANCES.	I -	
_	MARK W. VOIGT, ESQUIRE	2	As you know, you're under oath and you're
3	Plymouth Meeting Executive Campus	3	required to tell the truth. Your answers need to be
	600 West Germantown Pike	4	verbal, meaning you need to verbalize and say yes or
4	Suite 400 Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania 19462	5	no or maybe, because the court reporter, however
5	Representing the Plaintiff	6	proficient, can't transcribe a nod or a shake of the
6	BARRY N. KRAMER, ESQUIRE	7	head.
_	SENIOR DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL	8	A. Okay.
7	OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL	9	Q. If you don't understand a question, please just
8	Litigation Section 21 South 12th Street, 3rd Floor	10	tell me, I will repeat it, try to make it more clear.
Ü	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107	11	My assumption is that if you answer the question,
9	Representing the Defendants	12	you're answering the question that I'm asking and tha
10		13	you are answering the question fully and completely.
11 12		14	Do you understand that?
13		15	A. I understand.
14		16	Q. If at any time you need to take a break, please
15		17	let us know, and we can go off the record and we can
16 17		18	take a break. You can talk to Mr. Voigt, your
18		19	counsel, at any time, except if there's a question
19		20	pending. Do you understand that?
20		21	A. Yes.
21		22	Q. Okay. And I think that's probably about all.
22 23		23	Do you have any questions before we start?
24		24	A. No.
1	Page 3	1	Q. Okay. I hope to have this done by lunchtime.
2	(It is hereby stipulated by and between	2	A. Okay.
3	counsel for the respective parties that signing,	3	Q. If you would please describe for me generally
4	sealing, certification and filing are waived,	4	your employment since, say, January 2006.
5	and that all objections, except as to the form	5	A. Starting in January 2006 I was unemployed
6	of the question, are reserved until the time of	6	I gave up all employment to focus on my student
7	trial.)	7	teaching. That was until May 2006. I began
8		8	employment at Hildebrandt Learning Centers as a
9	STACY SNYDER, after having been first duly	9	regional substitute teacher.
10	sworn or affirmed, was examined and testified as	10	Q. Okay.
11	follows:	11	A. That employment
12		12	Q. And what was that place called?
13	EXAMINATION	13	A. Hildebrandt Learning Centers.
14		14	Q. Okay. And what was what did that involve?
15	BY MR. KRAMER:	15	A. I was a regional substitute teacher. I
16	Q. Good morning, Ms. Snyder. My name is Barry	16	was responsible for the care of infants through 5th
17	Kramer. Good to see you again. This morning I will	17	grade. I would do various tasks, anything from
18	be taking your deposition in the lawsuit captioned	18	feeding and changing infants to being responsible for
19	Stacy Snyder versus Millersville University, et al.	19	daily lesson plans for 5th grade students with up
20	Have you ever had your deposition taken	20	to 5th grade students at Pequea Valley School
21	A. No.	21	District.
22	Q before?	22	Q. Okay. When did that start?
22	Let me give you a couple of ground rules.	23	A. That started in May of 2006.
24	These are very basic rules that lawyers give at the	24	Q. All right. Were you working as a Tupperware
~~	These are very basic rules that lawyers give at the	24	Q. All right. Were you working as a rupperware

1 consultant before that?

- A. No. I quit that to focus on my student
- 3 teaching.

5

- 4 Q. Okay. So at Hildebrandt, what town was that in?
 - A. They actually have various centers across
- 6 Lancaster County. My main center was at F and M7 College.
- 8 Q. Franklin and Marshall College?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And how many hours a week was that?
- 11 A. 30
- 12 Q. Okay. And what did they pay you per hour?
- 13 A. \$9.
- 14 Q. All right. And you worked 30 hours a week,
- 15 approximately?
- 16 A. 30 to 40 hours. 40 hours was pushing it,
- 17 due to my child care situation, but normally it was
- 18 around 30 hours a week. Started at 7:30 in the
- 19 morning.
- 20 Q. And are you still working at -- for Hildebrandt
- 21 Learning Center?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. When did you stop working for them?
- 24 A. November of 2006.

Page 6

1 time, but my main responsibility started there in

Page 8

Page 9

2 June.

5

10

- 3 Q. Of what year?
- 4 A. June 2006.
 - Q. All right.
- 6 A. It was periodically off and on, maybe a
- 7 few hours a week, but it wasn't a consistent job where
- 8 I was working long, long hours until 2007.
- 9 O. When in 2007?
 - A. During the summer.
- 11 Q. And why was it not a more consistent schedule?
- 12 A. It was a lot of weekend work, and I have
- 13 my children every other weekend. So I could not work
- 14 the hours that they needed me to every week. I had a
- 15 responsibility to watch my children. The hours
- 16 increased in 2007 after the Kramer family had to let
- 17 me go due to their own financial situation. They
- 18 couldn't pay me the amount that they were paying me
- 19 per week.
- 20 Q. Okay. How much were you making per hour at
- 21 Geoffrey Beene?
- A. That was \$7.50 and increased to \$8 an
- 23 hour.

2

5

9

17

24 Q. How many hours a week were you working there at

Page 7

- 1 Q. Okay. Why did you stop working for them?
- A. Two reasons: One, my situation with my
- 3 finances, they only could pay me \$9 an hour, I needed
- 4 more money than that; and they could not provide me
- 5 medical benefits.
- 6 Q. All right.

7

12

- A. That I could afford.
- 8 Q. Okay. So from, say, May '06 to November --
- 9 November '06, that was the only paying job you had --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. -- the one at Hildebrandt?
 - How about after Hildebrandt?
- 13 A. After Hildebrandt, it was December, around
- 14 that time I began working at my part-time job. I did
- 15 clothing sales, and that didn't really help pay the
- 16 bills. I needed to find something more than that. So
- 17 I began working as a nanny for the Kramer family in
- 18 January of 2007. There was a lapse there.
- 19 Q. Let me stop you.
- 20 A. Okay.
- 21 Q. Selling clothing, was that at Geoffrey Beene --
- 22 A. Yes.
- ?3 O. -- in Lancaster?
- A. Yes. I went there for a short period of

1 Geoffrey Beene?

- A. In 2006 or 2007?
- 3 Q. Well, 2006.
- 4 A. Maybe ten -- maybe ten hours every other
 - week. It was very, very small. It was just for extra
- 6 spending money.
- 7 Q. All right. And how about in 2007, how many
- 8 hours a week did you work at Geoffrey Beene?
 - A. It could be up to 30 or 35.
- 10 Q. All right.
- 11 A. And that was an unusual week. My schedule
- 12 was based around my sons' summer camp. They're in a
- 13 therapeutic summer camp. So I had to work around the
- 14 hours that they were there.
- 15 Q. All right. And you began working for the Kramer
- 16 family in Lititz as a nanny when?
 - A. January 2007.
- 18 Q. Okay. And you worked with them through when?
- 19 A. May 2007. Unfortunately, they were having
- 20 problems with their income and their taxes, and they
- 21 could not afford to pay me anymore, like I said.
- 22 Q. All right. Why did you leave the Geoffrey Beene 23 position?
- A. I got my full-time job that I'm at now.

1 O. Okay. And that is where?

A. That is at Arnold Printing Company, and is also coupled with Lancaster Reprographics. It's two

- 4 companies. I work for the Arnold Printing Company
- 5 side. And I've worked there since August of 2007.
- 6 Q. Okay. Full-time at the Arnold Printing Company
- 7 for you is 40 hours a week?
- 8 A. No. It's considered part-time. I only
- 9 can work -- I work 30 to 35 max.
- 10 O. Okav.
- 11 A. Once again, due to my living conditions
- 12 and my children and having to be home when they get
- 13 home from school, in most cases.
- 14 Q. If you -- if you wanted to work full-time at
- 15 Arnold, could you?
- 16 A. Not at this point.
- 17 Q. And that's because why?
- 18 A. My -- just regulations mandated by my
- 19 boss.

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- 20 Q. I see. Do you -- all right. I guess my point
- 21 is, if you didn't have to worry about your children's
- 22 needs, could you work a full-time --
- A. I could work 38 hours.
- MR. VOIGT: Wait till the question's done.

1 bartend events, weddings, retirements.

2 Q. Okay. It's kind of a catering hall, as opposed

Page 12

- 3 to a restaurant, or both?
- A. It is a restaurant and we have a banquet hall for events.
- 6 Q. Okay.

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- A. Just like any other Legion across America.
- 8 Q. Right. All right. You work at the American
- 9 Legion how many hours a week, approximately?
 - A. Approximately 15 hours.
- 11 Q. Is that pretty consistent over the course of --
- 12 A. It does die down around the holidays and
- 13 when the weather is bad. A lot of our clientele are
- 14 elderly and they -- we do not have a lot of business
- 15 during the times where there's snow.
- 16 Q. Okay. What's your hourly pay at Arnold
- 17 Printing?
 - A. Arnold Printing, it's \$9.
- 19 Q. Okay. And from the American Legion job, between
- 20 salary and wages, how much do you take home -- salary
- 21 and tips, about how much do you take home each week?
- A. Tips vary depending on how busy it is or
 - the type of event that it is. My hourly rate is \$2.83
- 24 for a waitress, and for bartending it's \$5.50 an hour.

Page 11

THE WITNESS: Sorry.

- 2 BY MR. KRAMER:
- 3 Q. And I forgot to tell you, you need to let me
- 4 finish, because --
- 5 A. Sorry.
- 6 Q. Well, we talk over each other, but we shouldn't 7 do that.
- 8 I'm sorry, you were saying -- if it
- 9 weren't for your children, who you need to care for,
- 10 could you work full-time at Arnold?
- 11 A. 38 or 39 hours a week, I could do that, as 12 long as I'm not working 40 or over 40 hours.
- 13 Q. Okay. And that's because of regulations?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. All right. You also work as a waitress at
- 16 Ephrata?
- 17 A. Ephrata Legion.
- 18 Q. Okay. And what is that?
- 19 A. It's the American Legion. I work as a
- 20 waitress or a bartender. Most cases I work a Thursday
- 21 night shift as a bartender. Friday nights, if they
- 21 liight shift as a bartender. Friday flights, if the
- 22 need me, I work as a waitress.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- A. Saturday nights I will either waitress or

Q. All right. Generally, how much do you take home at the end of a week from the American Legion job?

- 3 A. My -- can I base it on every two weeks?
- 4 Q. Yeah, absolutely.
 - A. Okay. My bimonthly check is normally
- 6 around \$90 for my hourly rate. Approximately \$100 a
 - week in tips. And that is on a good week.
- 8 Q. I understand. The American Legion guys may not
- 9 be good tippers.
- 10 Let's talk about the period right before
- 11 May 1st, '06.
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. You're doing student teaching at Conestoga
- 14 Valley?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And you were not employed otherwise? That is,
- 17 you weren't working for pay anyplace --
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. -- during that period? Okay.
 - As of May 1st, '06, and the period, you
- 21 know, right before that, so we'll call it, I guess,
- 22 spring semester '06 --
- 23 A. Okay.
- 24 Q. -- had you looked for a job in teaching?

1 A. Yes.

- 2 Q. Okay. Where had you looked?
- 3 A. Several places. I applied at Hildebrandt.
- 4 I know that that wasn't an official teaching position,
- 5 but I wanted to work someplace over the summer as
- 6 well. Hildebrandt was one of my choices, as well as
- 7 Conestoga Valley High School, McCaskey, or Lancaster
- 8 School District, School District of Lancaster.
- 9 Q. Right.
- 10 A. I applied at some high schools and middle
- 11 schools in York County, as well as Berks County.
- 12 Wilson School District, York City School District. I
- 13 applied at Lampeter-Strasburg School District and a
- 14 couple other schools in Lancaster County as well.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. There was probably a list of about 15 to
- 17 20 schools.
- 18 Q. Okay. Did you have any interviews at any of
- 19 these school districts?
- A. Unfortunately, I received calls for
- 21 interviews from at least five to ten school districts.
- 22 I had to turn them down due to my situation.
- 23 Q. Your situation being what?
- A. The situation with Millersville and that

Page 14

1 Lampeter-Strasburg, Lancaster and two or three other

Page 16

- 2 school districts?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 A. But like I said, most of them were after 6 the graduation date.
- 7 Q. I understand. I see. I saw from some papers
- 8 that you have an interest in business administration?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And describe that for me. Where does that come
- 11 from?
- 12 A. Well, it actually started in high school.
- 13 Sorry I'm saying "Um" so much.
- 14 Q. That's okay.
 - A. I had an interest in marketing and sales.
- 16 I took the vocational program that they had while I
- 17 was a senior.

15

- 18 Q. At high school or college?
- 19 A. In high school, through Lancaster County
- 20 Vocational Technical School, and it was for marketing
- 21 and sales. So I've always had some type of interest
- 22 in business. I was planning on going for my Master's
- 23 in business administration and education. I wanted to
- 24 further that knowledge of business. But I've always

Page 15

- 1 my certification was no longer available.
- 2 Q. Okay. Did you get -- did you get calls for
- 3 interviews before May 1st, '06?
- 4 A. Most of the interviews or the calls for
- 5 the interviews were after graduation. I received one
- 6 to two phone calls prior and I told them that I would
- 7 be graduating in May, May 13th, and that I would have
- 8 my certification at that time, and they said they
- 9 would be calling me back to set up an interview.
- 10 Q. Okay. Which schools called you for interviews,
- 11 which school districts called you for interviews?
- 12 A. L-S School District.
- 13 Q. Is that Lampeter-Strasburg?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. That's your alma mater?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. Who else?
- 18 A. They had called me. The School District
- 19 of Lancaster called me, and I can remember two or
- 20 three other school districts, and I would have that
- 21 documentation -- if I had that documentation in front
- 22 of me I could give you the names. I don't know it off
- ?3 the top of my head. Sorry.
- 24 Q. So you got calls for interviews from

Page 17

- 1 had an interest in it, even in high school.
- 2 Q. Okay. Have you taken any steps to look into an
- 3 MBA program someplace?
- 4 A. Yes, I did look online for dual Master's
- 5 programs, what they have available, if it's
- 6 accredited, as far as the university is accredited,
- 7 and I found interest in Kaplan University and
- 8 University of Arizona.
- 9 Q. Okay. And where are you in pursuing that
- 10 interest?
- 11 A. I'm at a standstill as of right now,
- 12 because of my situation. I wanted to do the dual
- 13 Master's program, so I'm waiting to have my Bachelor's
- 14 of education before I can go further.
- 15 Q. All right. Is there something -- can you pursue
- 16 a dual degree in -- strike that.
 - When you say you wanted a dual degree,
- 18 you're referring to the MBA and --
- 19 A. Elementary education.
- 20 Q. All right. Are you saying that you're
- 21 interested in pursuing further studies in elementary
- 22 education? I just don't understand what you're
- 23 telling me.
- A. Before my graduation in May 2006 I had

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Page 18

- 1 contacted Millersville concerning a post baccalaureate
- 2 program for elementary education. It was an interest
- 3 of mine to pursue elementary education, to have
- 4 certification from kindergarten through 12th grade.
- 5 Q. All right. Elementary education is grades what 6 to what?
- A. 12 (sic) through 6 or 7th, depending on 8 the school district.
- 9 Q. Elementary education.
- 10 A. Elementary.
- 11 Q. Grade -- I'm sorry, elementary education refers
- 12 to grades 1 through -- because I thought there was a
- 13 difference between elementary education certification
- 14 and secondary.
- 15 A. There is a -- there is a clear difference.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. Secondary education is 7th through 12th 18 grade.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 A. Elementary education is kindergarten, in
- 21 most cases it includes kindergarten, through 6th or
- 22 7th grade.

24

- 23 Q. Okay. Got it.
 - A. Depending on the school district. Some

- ate 1 on for a Master's in education.
 - 2 Q. I see. Okay. I also saw that you have an
 - 3 interest in physical therapy as a career?
 - A. Yes.
 - 5 O. What's that?
 - A. I had a surgery on my knee in October.

Page 20

Page 21

- 7 Q. Of what year?
- A. Last year, 2007, and I went through the program with Orthopedic Associates of Lancaster.
- 10 Q. On your own knee?
- 11 A. On my own knee. And went to the physical
- 12 therapist there. I found an interest in pursuing that
- 13 possibly. I have wanted -- I've always wanted to help
- 14 people. That's why I wanted to become a teacher.
- 15 Since this has come to a halt, I wanted to find
- 16 another area in which I could help people, and I found
- 17 interest in the physical therapy.
 - I contacted Central Pennsylvania College.
- 19 It's the closest university that does the physical
- 20 therapy assistant program. I was actually accepted
- 21 there. I received a phone call from them.
- 22 Unfortunately, I had put it on hold, because of the
- 23 court case. They have an opening for me in December
- 24 if I would like to start at that point, but I will

Page 19

- 1 school districts start their middle school at 6th
- 2 grade, some start it at 7th grade.
- 3 Q. Who did you speak with at Millersville to get
- 4 more information about a degree in elementary
- 5 education?
- 6 A. Dr. Wenrich.
- 7 Q. And when did you speak with her about that?
- 8 A. In May of 2006, I spoke with her a few
- 9 weeks before graduation to see if there was a post
- 10 baccalaureate program and what my options were. After
- 11 the incident occurred, I asked her if it was possible
- 12 for me to still take elementary education courses at
- 13 Millersville, and my answer was no.
- 14 Q. She said no?
 - A. Yes.

- 16 Q. All right. With respect -- so you're not
- 17 looking at an MBA program now, because you're just
- 18 waiting to see what --
- 19 A. I did look. I have schools that I would
- 20 like to go to. Unfortunately, due to my financial
- 21 circumstance and the circumstance with the
- 22 certification, I cannot go further with the process,
- 23 especially in the education portion of the process.
- 24 You need a Bachelor's of education before you can go

- 1 have to pay for it financially as well.
 - 2 Q. So how has the court case stopped you from
 - 3 entering that program?
 - 4 A. If I would start the classes, it would
 - 5 have started prior to the trial. And unfortunately, I
 - 6 am very gung-ho about putting all my effort into my
 - 7 work, and I would hate to stop for a week to two weeks
 - 8 in the semester, in the middle of a semester, and tell
 - 9 all of my professors that I couldn't come to class due
 - 10 to a trial. So I would rather wait until after the
 - 11 trial is over that I'll be able to put forth a full
 - 12 effort to my classes and to my professors.
 - 13 Q. How would you afford the program at Central PA
 - 14 College?
 - 15 A. They have financial aid. Unfortunately,
 - 16 it would entail more student loans. I have been
 - 17 approved to have loans for each semester, and I can
 - 18 continue my loans up to \$40,000.
 - 19 Q. Okay.
 - 20 A. That's above and beyond what I already owe
 - 21 Millersville.
 - 22 Q. Okay. The program at Central PA College is an
 - 23 Associate's degree?
 - 24 A. Yes.

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Page 22

1 Q. Is it a two-year program?

- 2 It is a two-year program; however, with my 3 prior knowledge and my prior classes, I can transfer 38 credits, I believe. So the program actually would 4
- 5 be a year or less for me.
- Q. A year of full-time --6
- 7 Yes. A.
- 8 Q. -- schooling?
- 9 Yes. I would have to stop work. A.
- 10 And how much -- given that you can waive, it
- seems, a lot of the credits, how many courses or 11
- credits would you need for this AA in physical 12
- 13 therapy?
- 14 It's a 120-course --A.
- 15 Q. Credit?
- 16 Credit. 40 credits would be taken off.
- 17 It's approximately 60 to 80 credits that I would have
- 18 to take, from my understanding.
- 19 O. And each course is three credits?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 O. Okay.
- 22 A. And their -- their classes are set up
- differently than Millersville, than a four-year 23
- university. They have, I believe, seven weeks on, two 24

Approximately 20,000. 1 A.

- 2 And how much do you owe Millersville?
 - Approximately 15,000.
 - Q. Okay. And those are separate loans?
 - Yes. One is for unsubsidized Stafford, I

Page 24

Page 25

- 6 believe, and the regular Federal loan's with Chase.
- 7 Q. Okay. Have you, at this point, decided which of 8 these professional interests you're gonna pursue?
- 9 I would still like to pursue the education
- 10 with the business administration. That's never left
- 11 my mind. I would still like to do that to this day.
- 12 Unfortunately, I can't without the Bachelor's of
- 13 education. If all falls through, I would still pursue
- 14 the healthcare or the physical therapy, because I
- would like to do something professional in which I'm 15
- 16 helping people.
- 17 Q. You referred to healthcare. Is that separate
- 18 from the physical therapy?
- 19 A. No.
- Q. Okav. 20
- 21 A. I consider physical therapy part of
- 22 healthcare.
- 23 Q. Okay. How's your knee?
- 24 A. Okay.

Page 23

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- weeks off. It might be eight weeks on, two weeks off. 1
- 2 And their class structure is different. While I would
- 3 be at Millersville taking 15 to 18 credits, for them 9
- to 12 credits would be the normal workload. 4
- 5 Q. How much in student loans would you need to take
- 6 to pursue this program at Central PA College? If you
- 7 know.
- 8 A. I cannot answer that off the top of my
- 9 head, unfortunately. It was figured to be
- 10 approximately 15,000, at least.
- Q. Okay. You presently -- you said you presently 11
- 12 have student loans to Millersville.
- 13 I have student loans through Chase Bank,
- 14 which are on deferment due to my financial situation,
- unfortunately. In addition to the student loans with 15
- Chase, I have student loans through Millersville 16 17
- University, and I have been unable to pay them. I'm 18 in the process of re-signing with a company to put
- 19 them on deferment as well.
- 20 Q. What's your -- and all of these loans are from
- 21 your undergraduate degree? 22
 - Absolutely, yes.
- 23 Q. How much do you owe Chase at this point,
- 24 approximately?

Q. At any time since May 2006 did you apply to any

2 private schools for a job? 3

No, I have not. And that's due to A. personal beliefs.

5 Q. Explain.

- 6 Most private schools around our region are
- 7 religious schools, and I feel that personally, I'm 8
- Catholic, and I wouldn't feel comfortable teaching
- 9 another religion.
- 10 Q. Okay. Have you applied to any charter schools
- 11 for a teaching job since May of 2006?
- 12 The only charter school available around
- 13 the region is La Academia Charter School, where I had 14 a placement.
- 15 Q. Could you spell that?
- 16 La, L-A, Academia, A-C-A-D-M-I-A (sic). A.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. And that is through the School District of
- 19 Lancaster. They're a charter school that is coupled
- 20 with the School District of Lancaster. All of their
- 21 teachers actually have certification as well.
- 22 Q. Do you need certification from the Commonwealth
- 23 to teach at a private school, as far as you know?
- 24 My understanding, no.

- 1 Q. Do you need certification from the Commonwealth
- 2 to teach at a charter school?
- A. The charter schools around the County, 4 yes.
- Q. How about -- and that's just the one school, theLa Academia?
- A. I'm unaware of any other charter schools in the area.
- 9 Q. Have you looked outside the -- your immediate 10 Lancaster area to -- into charter schools?
- 11 A. No, because I'm unwilling or unable to 12 relocate, due to my children and my circumstance.
- 13 Q. Okay. And your kids are how old?
- 14 A. Kyle is ten years old, and Ian is nine 15 years old.
- 16 Q. And they're in, I think you said, special -- are they in special schools, or they're in public schools?
- 18 A. No, they are in the regular school
- 19 district, the regular school district in regular
- 20 schools, or regular setting, classroom setting. They
- 21 don't have any special needs teaching provided for
- them.

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- 23 Q. Okay.
- A. They're able to maintain in the school.

1 Q. Okay. What have you looked at? What routes are 2 available that you've looked at?

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Page 29

- A. Other sister schools down in Bloomsburg or Shippensburg. Other sister universities.
- 5 Unfortunately, I would have to transfer credits. Not
- 6 all of them would transfer. I would have to take
- 7 additional credits, I would have to take my student
- 8 teacher placement over again, and I would have to
- 9 commute to those sister universities. Unfortunately,
- 10 I cannot afford to do that.
- 11 Q. Okay. Bloomsburg and what other school?
- 12 A. Shippensburg. And those are all personal research I did on my own off the website.
- 14 Q. Okay. And where was Bloomsburg located 15 vis-a-vis where you live?
- 16 A. Ship --
- 17 Q. Where are they located?
- 18 A. Shippensburg is to the west, I believe,
- 19 and Bloomsburg is to -- I'm sorry, Shippensburg's to
- 20 the east, Bloomsburg's to the west.
- 21 Q. And about how far is Bloomsburg University from
- 22 where you live?
- A. Both universities are at least an hour
- 24 away.

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- Q. So neither child is an IEP, in other words?
- A. Kyle had an IEP last year.
- 3 Q. Okay.
- 4 A. It was not transferred over this year.
- Q. Okay. Did you make any attempts, since May '06,to get certification other than through Millersville?
- 7 MR. VOIGT: I'm going to object. Do you understand the question?
 - understand the question?

 MR. KRAMER: If you don't -- again, if you
 - don't understand the question, let me know.

 MR. VOIGT: You can answer over my
 - objection, but -MR. KRAMER: Yeah, but -- off the record.
 - (Whereupon, a discussion was held off the record.)
- 17 ---18 BY MR. KRAMER:
- 19 Q. Other than this litigation, have you made any
- 20 attempts to get certification?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Have you looked into trying to get
- 23 certification?
- A. Yes, and financially I cannot afford it.

- 1 Q. How many miles, if you know?
 - A. I can't answer that.
 - 3 Q. Okay. Who did you speak with at Bloomsburg, if 4 anybody?
 - 5 A. I -- it was all personal research off the 6 website.
 - 7 Q. All right. Did you call anybody at Bloomsburg
 - 8 to find out if you could get certification through 9 them?
 - 10 A. No. No.
 - 11 Q. Did you call anybody at Shippensburg to see if
 - 12 you could get certification through them?
 - A. No.
 - 14 Q. All right. There is a program that I learned of
 - 15 in this court case called ABCTE. Have you heard of
 - 16 them before?
 - A. Through the litigation, yes.
 - 18 Q. Okay. And what's your understanding of what 19 ABCTE does?
 - 20 A. ABCTE allows graduates of a university,
 - 21 normally with a Bachelor's, but it could be with a
 - 22 Master's, that want to restart or reform their area of
 - 23 expertise, they want to receive certification in an
 - 24 area, which they would become a teacher. They go

- 1 through their program. A lot of the work is
- individual work. You do receive a mentor, and you 2
- 3 have to go through the program, complete every aspect
- 4 of it to receive certification.
- 5 Q. Okay. And you did -- you learned about ABC --
- you did research about ABCTE on the internet? 6
 - Yes.
- 8 Q. Did you call anybody at ABCTE to get
- 9 information?
- 10 I called an individual from PDE,
- Pennsylvania Department of Education, as well as an 11
- individual from ABCTE. I do not have their names off 12
- 13 the top.

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- 14 O. Okay. And what did the person from PDE state to
- you? Do you remember? 15
- I asked them a question concerning the 16
- 17 one-year-long temporary teaching certificate. I
- 18 wanted more information concerning the temporary
- 19 teaching certificate that you would receive from ABCTE
- 20 from after passing the test, and that is what I called
- 21 them concerning that aspect of the program.
- 22 Q. And what did the person tell you?
- 23 The temporary teaching certificate is
- 24 valid one time in your lifetime and is valid for one

- Page 32 1 light, it would have been very hard for me, even with
 - 2 a temporary teaching certificate, to obtain my own
 - 3 position within a school district within that year
 - time. All of the other parts of the program had to be 4
 - 5 completed after you obtained a position at a school
 - 6 district.
 - 7 Q. You referred to the media attention as sort of a
 - 8 barrier. What do you refer to?
 - The whole litigation, the case, was 9
 - 10 brought and picked up by different areas of the media
 - in my area. Some I had no control over. And some of 11
 - 12 the schools in the area frowned upon that. Due to
 - 13 Millersville trying to obtain me a position to redo
 - 14 student teaching, it was obvious.
 - 15 O. I didn't -- to?
 - 16 A. Redo the student teaching placement.
 - Q. Okay. Well, how do you know that, is my 17
 - question. How do you know that it was -- that the 18
 - 19 media attention caused school districts not to want to
 - 20 have you as a student teacher? That's what I want to
 - 21 know.
 - 22 I guess it was my own -- my own belief
 - 23 that that would be a barrier.
 - 24 Q. Okay. Did you yourself contact any school

Page 31

- 1 year. And they told me that there's no guarantee that
- 2 you can find a teaching position within that year. If
- 3 the teaching certificate expires, you have no other
- 4
- 5 Q. All right. And the person from ABCTE that you
- spoke with, what did that person tell you? 6
- I spoke with them about the actual
- 8 program, what happens when the mentors come into town.
- 9 That was a question of mine. There's actually a
- 10 mentor that flies in, what happens at that point, what
- type of mentoring do they do. And financially I would 11
- 12 be responsible for bringing that mentor in, giving
- them a place to stay, and all of the financial 13
- 14 requirements.
- 15 As far as the objectives of the program,
- it was very clear, cut and dry on the website. I 16
- didn't have to ask too many questions above and beyond 17
- 18 what it states on the website.
- 19 Q. Okay. Why did you -- I presume you decided not
- 20 to pursue the ABCTE option?
- 21 Correct. A.
- 22 Why is that?
- 23 With my situation, where I'm at with the
- 24 court case, the media attention that was brought to

- Page 33
- districts to see if they would take you as a student 1
- 2 teacher?
- 3 A.
- Q. Okay. So explain to me, then, the -- you spoke 4
- to the media at least a few times, because we have
- 6 media articles.

7

- A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Did you turn any interviews down?
- 9 A.
- 10 Q. Okay. How many or from whom?
- 11 Approximately 20. And that's minimal.
- 12 Okay. How many media outlets did you speak 13 with?
- 14 A. Television, radio and newspaper.
- 15 Q. Okay. Do you remember how many interviews you
- 16 gave?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 O. More than ten?
- 19 It was cumbersome. It was overwhelming.
- 20 And I turned them down, because it was interfering
- 21 with my life.
- 22 Q. The media interviews were interfering with --
- 23 how so?
 - A. I had media contacting my -- my parents'

Page 34 1 home, my neighbors' homes, showing up at my front door

- when I'm trying to be a parent and a worker. And so 2
- 3 the original media attention was not even -- it wasn't
- a conversation between myself and somebody else. The 4
- 5 original media attention started from the docket that
- they picked up, unfortunately. I had nothing to do 6
- 7 with it.
- O. Would you say you gave more than ten interviews 8
- after the lawsuit was filed? 9
- 10 Yes. A.
- Q. More than 20? 11
- 12 I can't verify that. No, I wouldn't
- 13 believe so.
- 14 Q. Okay. Somewhere between ten and 20 interviews
- you gave? 15
- A. Yes. 16
- Q. You were interviewed for TV on this? 17
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. What TV programs or stations?
- 20 Like the local stations in my area,
- channel 5, channel 7, channel 9. 21
- O. Any national? 22
- 23 A. CNN.
- Q. Okay. How about on the radio, did you give any

From litigation and from things that 1

- 2 transpired through litigation, that was my
- 3 understanding, that the school districts would not
- hire me, due to the attention from the media and from 4
- 5 the students viewing the media and what their
- interaction would be -- or I'm sorry, their 6
- 7 interaction would be with me or concerning the case in general.
- 9 Q. Okay. And in other words, my assumption is, and
- 10 tell me if I'm wrong, is that we tried to settle the
- case, Millersville made some phone calls, Millersville 11
- reported back to me, and I told Mr. Voigt that 12
- 13 information. Is that what you're basing this on?
- 14 A.
- 15 O. Okay. Any other information you have about the
- perception of other school districts? 16
- 17 A. No.
- 18 O. Okay. Since --
- MR. VOIGT: Before we get started, do you 19
- 20 mind if we take a short break?
- 22 (Brief recess.)
- 24 BY MR. KRAMER:

Page 35

21

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- radio interviews? 1
- 2 Α. FM 97.
- 3 O. Is this a local station?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Did you give any interviews on any national
- 6 radio station?
- 7 Fox. And that was it, as far as the radio Α.
- 8 was concerned.
- 9 O. Okay. Did you give any other interviews to
- 10 other media outlets?
- Lancaster New Era or Lancaster newspapers 11
- contacted me first, and they saw the docket article on 12
- Court TV. And that's how it all started. 13
- 14 Q. Okay.
- They stated that they would publish any 15 A.
- 16 article with or without talking to me.
- O. Okav. 17
- 18 So it snowballed with or without me A.
- 19 talking to the media.
- Q. Okay. You don't have any -- is it correct you 20
- don't have any direct knowledge from personal 21
- 22 conversations that a school district wouldn't be
- 23 interested in hiring you or retaining you as a student
- teacher because of these interviews? 24

Page 37 Q. Ms. Snyder, if you look at the first document

- 2 called Student Teaching Background Information.
- 3 A.
- 4 Q. And we're going to call this Snyder-1.
 - Okav.
- Q. When did you fill this out? 6
- 7 All students were required to fill it out
- before student teaching. We were required to fill it 8
- 9 out before we would obtain our placement or our
- teacher, to give them more information about our 10
- 11 background as a person and then our areas of
- 12 education.
- O. Okay. And this is a Millersville document? 13
- 14 A. Yes.
- O. Okay. It's not a Conestoga Valley document? 15
- 16 A. No.
- And is everything on here true? 17
- 18 Except for the Tupperware consultant. A.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 That didn't happen. Everything else is A. 21 correct.
- 22 Okay. At the bottom of the first page, and
- 23 again, this is because of my ignorance of education,
- 24 you wanted to be a secondary education English,

6

18

5

6

7

- 1 language arts or reading teacher in 7th or 8th grade?
- 2
- Q. The student teaching you were doing at Conestoga 3
- Valley was in second --4
 - A. 12th. I'm sorry.
- Q. -- secondary education English, right? 6
- 7 Yes.

5

- Q. Is that different than language arts? Is it a 8
- 9 different -- I just don't understand.
- 10 Okay. In the -- in secondary education
- English you can obtain a position 7th through 12th 11
- grade. It can be considered a language arts 12
- classroom, an English classroom or a reading 13
- classroom. Most reading positions, however, you need 14
- reading expertise, normally a Master's in reading. 15
- Q. Okay. Go ahead. 16
- 17 A. Some of the school districts call their
- 18 classrooms language arts, as opposed to English.
- Q. Okay. 19
- 20 A. Some of the school districts, instead of
- 21 saying an English 12, they will call it British
- literature. Depends on the school district and how 22
- 23 they want to pronounce -- or name or classify.
- Q. Okay. That's really the semantics of a given 24

- Page 40 1 Yes, that was -- and my main preference
 - 2 for that area in my student teaching was highly due to
 - 3 my previous experience. All of my past experiences
 - were with the higher levels or the higher grades of 4
 - 5 secondary education.
 - Q. Meaning 10th, 11th, 12th?
 - 7 10th -- yes, high school experience, and I
 - 8 really wanted to dig my hands into middle school and middle school experience. That's why my preference 9
 - 10 was 7th and 8th grade, so I had a better variety or
 - umbrella of experience. 11
 - 12 Q. If you had your choice, what age or what grade
 - would you teach as an English teacher? 13
 - A. Like I said, 7th or 8th. My choice 14 15 between the two, probably 8th grade.
 - Q. Okay. Shew. 16
 - 17 That's exactly what my parents said.
 - Q. Just turn to the last page.
 - 19 Okay. A.
 - Q. Could you confirm that's your signature at the 20
 - bottom of the page? 21
 - 22 A. Yes.
 - 23 Q. Did you read -- it says here "Please read and
 - sign: I understand that as a student teacher I am 24

Page 39

- school district, what they would call it? 1
- 2 Yes. Yes.
- Q. In fact, I think at Conestoga Valley they call 3
- it communications? 4
- 5 Yes. A.
- Q. Ms. Buffington was chair of the communications 6
- 7 department --
- 8 A. Right.
- 9 -- as opposed to chair of an English department? O.
- 10 Correct.
- 11 Q. Okay. And you were interested in 7th or 8th
- 12 grade --
- 13 Yes. Α.
- 14 Q. -- at that point?
- 15 Was 7th or -- was student teaching at a
- 7th or 8th grade position your preferred student 16
- teaching assignment? 17
- 18 Yes.
- 19 Q. Why didn't you get that?
- 20 I'm not sure.
- 21 Q. Okay. And is that still your preference, to
- 22 teach, I guess --
- 23 Yes. A.
- -- I think of that as middle school?

- representing Millersville University and am a guest in 1
- the host school. I understand that I am subject to 2
- 3 the rules and regulations of the school district to
- 4 which I am assigned."
 - Did you ever inquire as to the rules and regulations of Conestoga Valley?
 - They were never provided to me.
- 8 Q. Okay. Did you make any inquiries to find out 9 what they were?
- 10 I was under the impression that they would 11 be the same rules and regulations which they referred to in the orientation meeting. 12
- 13 Okay. O.
- 14 That it would be an envelope for all A.
- school districts, maintain your professionalism, have
- proper attire. The basic guidelines that they give 16
- 17 you.
- 18 Q. The usual stuff.
- 19 Yes.
- 20 Q. Well, let's -- just so I can clarify, you went
- to an orientation meeting in January '06, correct, at 21
- 22 Millersville?
- 23 A.
- 24 Q. Okay. And did they give you -- they gave you

10

1 some documents at that meeting?

- 2 They gave us a packet of documents that
- would assist us in our student teaching, possible 3
- 4 ideas, things that we might run into as far as a
- 5 teacher in a classroom, and things that would help us
- maintain or complete our portfolios. 6
- 7 O. Do you remember what that document was called,
- 8 that document --
- 9 A. Oh, there were various documents in that
- 10 pile. A lot of the documents were personal opinions
- of other professionals in education. 11
- Q. Okay. Was that the Millersville University 12
- Guide for Student Teaching? (Indicating.) 13
- That was one of the documents in the 14 A. packet. 15
- Q. Okay. At any point did you receive a version of 16
- this document, this is -- the one I have is dated 17
- 18 September 2007, called Conestoga Valley School
- 19 District Professional Handbook? (Indicating.)
- 20 A.
- 21 Q. You never received any version of this from
- 22 Conestoga Valley?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. Okay. Did you ever receive from Conestoga 24

- Page 44 Nicole Reinking gave me documents that would assist me
- 2 in class --
- 3 Q. Okay.
- -- a grammar book, past documents that she 4 A.
- 5 used for tests and quizzes. Things like that.
- 6 O. So she gave you the teaching materials that you
- 7 would need?
- 8 A. Yeah, exactly.
- 9 Q. Okay. You can move that over.
 - Just look at the second page. This is a
- note to you from Kim? 11
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 O. Who is --
- 14 Kimberly McCollum-Clark was an advisor.
- 15 She was also --
- 16 O. From Millersville?
- 17 From Millersville. She was my English
- 18 advisor, as well as a professor that I had for years.
- 19 And she transitioned with me throughout the whole
- 20 process, the English process. I had her starting in
- 21 sophomore to junior year, and that continued on until
- 22 my final class before student teaching.
- 23 So she was your faculty advisor at Millersville?
 - Faculty advisor and college teacher, you

Page 43

24

- Valley this document, the Conestoga Valley School 1
- 2 District Administrative Hiring Manual for Professional
- 3 Employees Adapted Through "Teacher of the Future" for
- NCLB Standards? Did you ever receive that document? 4
- 5 (Indicating.)
- 6 A. Nope.
- 7 Q. Okay. Did Conestoga Valley, as opposed to
- 8 Millersville, ever give you any documents,
- 9 administrative documents?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. Did Conestoga Valley ever give you any documents
- 12 reflecting the District's rules and regulations?
- 13 A.
- 14 O. So your understanding, while student teaching,
- 15 was that the Millersville Guide for Student Teaching
- was sort of what governed your behavior, as it were? 16
- A. Correct. 17
- Q. Okay. All right. Did Nicole Reinking or Deann 18
- 19 Buffington ever give you any papers, documents
- 20 reflecting any rules and regulations from the school,
- 21 from the high school?

24

- 22 Not rules and regulations, no. A.
- 23 Okay. What kinds of papers did they give you? Q.
 - Deann Buffington did not give me anything.

- know, professor. 1
- 2 O. What's the context of this document? I mean,
- 3 why did she write it, if you know?
- 4 We had a -- in the English 485 class we
- 5 had to make up a portfolio. It was required. One
- part of the portfolio was a self-evaluation. It was 6
- 7 of our professional behavior, disposition, how we felt
- 8 about ourselves as a teacher. And this was her
- 9 response to my portfolio and what I said about my
- 10 professional behavior.
- 11 O. Did you respond to her note?
- 12 No. This was handed to me along with my 13 portfolio and my grade.
- 14 Q. Okay. I see. This was part of this course,
- 15 English 485?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. She gave a personal response to all
- 19 students.
- 20 Q. I understand. Okay. Turn to the next -- and
- 21 we're going to call this Snyder-2.

23 (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-1 was marked 24

for identification.)

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2 BY MR. KRAMER:

1

- 3 Q. Okay. Turn to the next documents, which we'll 4 mark as Snyder-2. These documents are all called
- 5 Academic Major Form, except for the last few pages.
- 6 Explain to me what the first page is.
- 7 Originally I was a nuclear medicine 8 biology major.
- 9 Q. What is nuclear medicine?
- 10 Well, it's the study of medicine in the form of nuclear physics, if you want to do any type of 11
- cancer research, which was ultimately my goal. My 12
- grandfather, unfortunately, died of cancer and I 13
- 14 originally wanted to work with cancer patients.
- Q. Okay. 15
- 16 A. And nuclear medicine is the study of 17 cancer through nuclear medicine. It's an option of
- the biology. You could have chemistry as another 18
- 19 option or another minor. That was just my expertise 20
- or my preference.
- 21 Q. So at the time in, this is from spring 2003,
- 22 your major was biology?
- 23 Up until that point, yes. A.
- Q. And this was your sophomore year? 24

O. Okay. At the time your -- the degree you were 1

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- aiming for was a Bachelor of Science? 2
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. You wanted to change that to a Bachelor's of
- 5 English -- a Bachelor of Arts in English?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. What caused you to do that?
 - I was struggling with my studies in
- 9 biology. Biology is one of the hardest majors at
- 10 Millersville, and any person can tell you that.
- 11 Unfortunately, with two children I could not study the
- 12 amount that I needed to, and the next viable option
- for me was English. I had a class with a professor, I 13
- 14 had gone through the entire class, and she wrote a
- letter to me, which unfortunately I don't have 15
- 16 anymore, stating that I would be a very good candidate
- for the English department. That is why I switched to 17
- 18 that area.
- Q. And who was that professor? Her name, his name. 19
- 20 She's deceased now. I can't think of her A.
- name. I'm sorry. 21
- 22 Q. Okay. And it says to the right of that "Print
- 23 Journalism" as an option?
- 24 A. Yes.

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- 2003. I started summer 2002. This was 1
- 2 going to be changed summer of 2003. So it would be
- 3 the end of my freshman year.
- 4 Q. All right. And it says "Option," nuclear
- 5 medicine. Does that mean nuclear medicine is a minor?
- It's not a minor. It's -- if you're 6
- 7 looking in a hierarchy, it's what's underneath the
- 8 minor. It's an option that's coupled with your major,
- 9 but it's not enough credits for a minor.
- Q. Okay. 10
- 11 A. Or they do not have the minor available at the college. 12
- 13 Q. Got it. Okay. That's certainly different from 14
- when I went to school. 15
- What were you -- were you planning on a specific career in mind in which you would use 16
- 17 biology, you know, slash, nuclear medicine at the time
- 18 Cancer research.
- 19 Q. Okay. Would you have needed additional degrees
- 20 above the Bachelor of Science to get that?
- 21 Possibly, depending on the level. If I
- 22 wanted to work with patients and -- the chemo
- 13 patients, no. But if I wanted to be a doctor to do
- 24 research, yes, obviously.

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- 1 Q. And how did that play into this?
- 2 When you're an English major with a
- 3 Bachelor of Arts, you need an option or a minor, and
- 4 they have several different options, writing, print
- 5 journalism. You could actually have a category in
- 6 which you have an expertise, like women writers. But
- 7 I decided to go with print journalism and see how that
- 8 went, see if I had an interest in it, writing for the
- 9 newspaper or becoming an editor of a paper.
- 10 Q. Okay. Were you considering a career in
- 11 journalism at that point?
 - A. Yes.

12

15

- 13 O. Okay. At the bottom, whose -- it looks like
- 14 John Hoover under number II?
 - That was my advisor in biology.
- 16 Q. So since you were changing your major you had to get a new advisor?
- 17 18
 - A. Right.
- 19 Q. Okay. And that was Dr. Paul Belgrade, who was 20 assigned as your advisor?
- 21 Correct. A.
- 22 Q. Okay. Beverly Schneller signed off. Who's
- 23 Beverly Schneller?
 - A. Beverly Schneller is the chair of the

Q. And her signature, I presume, was a requirement 2

English department at Millersville University.

- 3 to change majors?
- 4 A. Yes.

1

- 5 Q. Okay. Go to the next page. What is this page?
- 6 I wanted to transfer from a BA to a
- 7 Bachelor of Secondary Education. After more soul
- 8 searching and research I decided, in fact, that I did
- 9 want to become a teacher. And after a lot of
- 10 conversations with my advisors and my professors, it
- 11 led me to that decision.
- Q. Okay. Under number I it says "Current Degree," 12
- BS, and the E is, the letter E, is in bold. 13
- I believe Beverly Schneller wrote that. 14 A.
- Q. Okay. 15
- A. Because it's the same handwriting. 16
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 After I fill out this form and I hand it A.
- 19 to my advisor, I really don't see it after that point.
- Q. Okay. And because you needed a new advisor, 20
- also, was that part of Millersville's protocol? 21
- 22 When you -- yes. In an English
- 23 department, or in the English department, when you are
- 24 a Bachelor of Arts you have different advisors than

- leave. 1
 - 2 Q. All right. It says here at the top current
 - 3 degree is BA?
 - 4 A. Yes, which I don't understand.
 - 5 O. So that's wrong?
 - I believe, yes. 6
 - 7 Q. Okay. But your major was still in English with
 - an option in print journalism? 8
 - 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 Q. Okay. Next page, what is this document?
- I changed advisors again, not on my 11
- 12 choice, but Dr. Karnicky went to a different college,
- 13 and my new advisor was Kim McCollum-Clark, which is at

Page 52

- 14 the bottom.
- 15 Q. This one, this document, says received
- June 24th, 2004. This lists your current degree as a
- BA? 17
- 18 A. BSE. That's why I'm saying I don't
- 19 understand the third document, where it says BA. I
- 20 think I was entirely -- I think I was continuing my BA
- 21 until this point, because it says I wish to change my
- 22 major to a BSE. So from summer '04 I was a BSE major.
- 23 Q. Look at -- I think we may be looking at
- 24 different documents, because the document I have --

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- 1 you would if you're a Bachelor of Secondary Education.
- 2 O. Okay.
- 3 Because you need a professor that's not
- 4 only tailoring to students that are English-bound, but
- 5 also education-bound.
- Q. And so your new advisor was -- I can't pronounce 6
- 7 that.
- 8 Dr. Masciale-Walmer.
- 9 Q. Okay. And what was her expertise? I'm assuming
- 10 it's a female.
- 11 Yes. English education.
- Q. Okay. You still had the option of print 12
- journalism. Why is that? 13
- I wanted to teach print journalism to 14
- 15 secondary education students.
- Q. All right. 16
- 17 Be in charge of the yearbook or the school
- 18 newspaper.
- 19 Q. Okay. Next page. This one, at the very bottom,
- 20 signed by Beverly Schneller, dated 11/14/03. What is
- 21 this document?
- 22 A. My advisor changed to Dr. Karnicky.
- ?3 Q. Why is that?
- 24 Dr. Masciale-Walmer went on maternity

- Page 53 look at this. Received June 24th, 2004, has your
- 2 current degree as a BA. (Indicating.)
- 3 Correct. A.
- Q. Do you have that document? 4
 - Yeah. A.
- 6 Q. Okay.
 - That's what I'm saying. And it says I
- 8 wish to change my major to a Bachelor of Secondary
- 9 Education.
- 10 Q. Okay. So that's incorrect, or you don't know
- 11 why that's the --
- 12 No, that is correct. The previous sheet
- 13 with the BSE, that is incorrect.
- 14 Q. I see.
- 15 A. That's what I'm saying.
- 16 So at that point you were still going for a BA?
- 17 Correct. A.
- 18 O. Not a BSE?
- 19 Yes. A.
- 20 Q. Okay. Got it. And here it has journalism as a
- 21 minor, no longer as an option. Do you see that?
 - A. Right.
- 23 What is that?
- 24 Well, I wrote "Minor."

1 O. What does that mean?

- A. I was under the impression the entire time
- 3 that it was a minor, not an option. So I crossed that
- 4 off and wrote "Minor."
- 5 Q. For a minor you would need additional --
- 6 A. Credits.
- 7 Q. -- credits --
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. -- than for an option?
- 10 A. Correct. They did have the journalism
- 11 minor and they did have the journalism option.
- 12 Q. Okay. Your degree at this point, in June '04,
- 13 had you received this degree it would have said you're
- 14 awarded a Bachelor of Arts, right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 O. Would it have also said a Bachelor of Arts in
- 17 English with a minor in journalism? I mean, how does
- 18 that --
- 19 A. I don't know how they print the diplomas
- 20 for the students with a major and a minor. It would
- 21 be my impression that they would have the minor listed
- 22 on the diploma; however, I'm not 100 percent aware of
- 23 what they do in those circumstances.
- 24 Q. So at this point, in June '04, your current

1 A. Ye

2 Q. Okay. But I see at the bottom you're getting a

Page 56

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- 3 new advisor?
- A. Yes.
- 5 O. This is K. McCollum-Clark?
- 6 A. Yeah, Kimberly McCollum-Clark.
- 7 Q. And she's the person who wrote that note that we
- 8 talked about a couple minutes ago?
- 9 A. Yes.

12

20

- 10 Q. Okay. Was Ms. McCollum-Clark your advisor from
- 11 this point through graduation?
 - Yes, the last two years.
- 13 Q. Okay. The next page, okay, this is from May
- 14 '06. This document, it appears, is an important -- is
- 15 related to, you know, Millersville's actions and your
- 16 actions, you know, at the end of your teaching,
- 17 student teaching, right?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Is any of this --
 - A. I never saw this document before.
- 21 Q. So none of this is your handwriting?
- 22 A. No
- 23 Q. Okay. And you never saw this document at all
- 24 ever?

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Page 55

- degree, the degree you're aiming for, is a Bachelor of
- 2 Arts, right?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 O. In English?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. With a minor in journalism?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. And that's because what you were hoping to do
- 9 was teach journalism to high school kids?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. And then it switched.
- 13 Q. Right, then it switches. And on the same
- 14 document, I want to change my major to BSE in English,
- and this is in the summer of '04?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. The S stands for -- what does the S stand for?
- 18 A. Secondary.
- 19 Q. Okay. Did you have to change advisors as well?
- A. It could be science or secondary. It was
- 21 my impression that it was Bachelor of Secondary
- 22 Education.
- 23 Q. Okay. And at that point your current advisor
- 24 was Karnicky still?

A. No.

- Q. Okay. Go to the next page, which is -- actually
- 3 states "Courses by Terms." And just go to the third
- 4 -- page 3 of 3.
 - A. Okay.
- 6 O. At the very bottom it has your courses for
 - spring '06.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Second -- second item is EDEN 461, section 3B,
- 10 student teaching in English, right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And that -- and Girvin was your Millersville
- 13 supervisor for that?
 - A. Correct.
- 15 Q. Okay. The grade is W. What does that mean?
- 16 A. Withdraw.
- 17 Q. Okay. Is that what you understand is what
- 18 happened in that course officially?
 - A. They gave me a withdraw.
- 20 Q. Do you know why they gave you a withdraw, as
- 21 opposed to a failure?
- A. My understanding is if the school district gives you an unsatisfactory, the college gives you an
- 24 unsatisfactory, and then you -- a withdraw is given to

Page 58

1 you.

- Q. Okay. 2
- 3 Not an F.
- 4 Q. Correct. After that it says "Non-Ge." What
- 5 does that mean?
- Non-general education. 6 A.
- Q. Okay. Last page, this is "View Student 7
- 8 Schedule," May 3rd, '07. What is this document? Why
- 9 does it exist, if you know?
- 10 A. I don't know who brought it up. I'm
- really unsure why it's in here. 11
- O. Because you weren't enrolled at Millersville in 12
- 13 May '07, right?
- 14 A. May '07, no.
- 15 O. Okay.
- 16 A. This is May '06. From the classes that
- 17 are listed here, this is what I had for my -- I'm
- 18 sorry, not May 2006. It was a previous -- previous
- 19 semester.
- 20 Q. Was there one semester at Millersville in which
- 21 you took the five courses listed here?
- 22 Yes.
- 23 O. Do you know what semester that was?
- 24 Right here, fall 2005.

- Correct. 1 A.
 - 2 What does that mean?
 - 3 Action Research Project is a project in
 - 4 which you're researching a student that has problems 5

Page 60

Page 61

- with his or her writing. My student had dysgraphia.
- O. What's that?
- 7 Dysgraphia is a disorder in which the
- 8 mental thoughts can't get to the paper through the
- 9 handwriting of the student. My student that I had
- 10 unfortunately had trouble putting the pen to the paper
- 11 and getting the thoughts down on the paper. His
- handwriting looked like that of a 4th grade student. 12
- 13 O. And how old was the kid?
- 14 He was a freshman.
- Q. In high school? 15
- In high school. 16 A.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 And unfortunately, some students have
- 19 these problem. He did not have an IEP. I was working
- 20 with Neil Weidman, who was not only my professor, but
- 21 the high school teacher that was teaching the student.
- 22 We were working with him to help him get his thoughts
- 23 on the paper, finding an easier way for him to
- 24 communicate and to -- and he'll have better grades in

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4

- O. Okay. Thanks.
- Actually, I'm sorry, no, it was prior to
- 3 that.

1 2

- 4 Q. I just didn't know what this document was.
- 5 I have no idea why it's in there.
- 6 Q. All right.
- 7 It would be spring 2005. I apologize.
- 8 Q. Okay. Okay. We're done with Snyder-2. 9
- 10 (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-2 was marked
- 11 for identification.)
- BY MR. KRAMER: 13
- 14 Q. Now, at some point you did some kind of
- 15 internship with a Mr. Weidman at Garden Spot High
- 16 School?
- Correct. 17 A.
- 18 O. When was that?
- 19 That was the semester prior to student
- 20 teaching. It was approximately September 2005 to, I
- want to say November to December 2005. I was in there 21
- 22 periodically per week to work with a student with
- 23 special needs.
- 24 Q. Okay. That was a -- an Action Research Project?

- 1 the class. So that was my project with Neil.
 - 2 Q. Okay. So for those -- really the fall of 2005,
 - 3 you worked with this one student?
 - Α. Yes.
 - 5 Q. And what did your work with him entail? What
 - 6 did you do with him? 7
 - A. I first researched him.
 - 8 Q. As a person?
 - 9 As a person, as a student, researched his
- 10 work, researched dysgraphia or other problems based on
- what I saw in his writing. The next step after that 11
- 12 is actually implementing a plan with him. We'll say
- 13 Tom was his name, because I can't say his name.
- 14 "Tom, I think these issues are going on.
- 15 I'm going to work with you to help you get better grades in English, to help you succeed." And I worked 16
- with him. I actually had to learn a lot about him as 17
- 18 a person to help him as a writer. So that was the 19 process.
- 20 And that was the whole point of the Action
- 21 Research Project, to -- basically a scientific method.
- 22 You have a hypothesis, what is wrong with the student
- 23 or what is wrong with the writing of the student and
- 24 how can I change it, and you come to a conclusion at

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1 the very end.

2 Q. Okay. And did you have to write a paper about

3 this?

- 4 A. Yes, approximately 40 pages.
- 5 O. Okay. Did you help the kid?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Okay. Do you --

8 A. Mr. Weidman talked to the guidance

9 department, and his parents tried to get him an IEP to

10 help him out afterwards. I had no part in that,

11 because he wasn't my official student.

12 Q. Right. That must have been pretty satisfying to

13 help him.

14 A. It was one of the biggest experiences,

15 yes.

16 Q. How many hours a week did you work with this

17 boy?

18 A. Prob -- approximately three to five hours.

19 Unfortunately, it was in the middle of a semester

20 where I had a large workload. I believe I was taking

21 18 credits that semester while working and helping him

22 individually, and I also had my junior block

23 placement.

24 Q. What's junior block placement?

Page 62

1 him an assignment, a paper, and then I would help him

2 with that paper.

3 Q. Okay. So, in fact, you were a private teacher

4 for this boy for those hours that you were there?

A. Tutor.

6 O. Tutor.

A. Yes.

8 Q. Okay. At any time at Garden Spot High School,

9 with Neil Weidman, did you ever need to teach the

10 entire class anything?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. There were periods of time that we were

14 with the entire class, and then what would happen is

15 myself and the two other students that came up to his

16 classroom, we would kind of branch off with our

17 students when they were doing their individual work.

18 Q. So most of your work with Tom, this boy, took

19 place outside of the regular classroom?

A. It was inside the regular classroom, but

21 just separated.

22 O. Okay. Sort of in the corner?

A. Yeah.

24 Q. Okay. And did you spend any time at all working

Page 63

A. Junior block placement is the teaching

before student teaching, in which you go into aschool. At that time I was in L-S School District,

4 Sue Fetterolf's classroom.

5 Q. Okay. That's my next area. Were you doing your

6 work in Neil Weidman's class at the same time you were

working in Sue Fetterolf's class, or Fetterolf came

8 after?

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9

A. Fetterolf was directly after that. The two times did lapse a little bit. My meetings with

two times did lapse a little bit. My meetings with
 Fetterolf before my placement and some of the time

that I was in Neil's classroom did overlap.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. I was finishing the project and starting

15 the placement.

16 Q. Okay. Did you have any responsibility for

17 curriculum in your Action Research Project with this

18 boy?

19 A. I had to find documents that would help

20 him. One of the documents was a brainstorming

21 worksheet. I had him brainstorm his ideas to help him

22 get the thoughts on the paper. Just various things

'3 like that. I wasn't in charge of the work that he

24 had. That was Neil's responsibility. Neil would give

with the other kids in the class?

Sometimes, yes.

3 O. How so?

4 A. Walking around the classroom, making sure

that they're doing the work, asking them questions,

6 "Well, what do you think about this idea? How does it

7 connect to your story?" Basic grammar corrections on

8 papers. Not that I was doing what a student teacher

9 would do or what a regular classroom teacher would do,

10 but basically helping out, trying to gain a grasp of

11 the classroom in general and the students in general.

12 Q. Okay. So in other words, while -- it sounds

13 like while, you know, while the students are working

14 on a project at the same time, you'd walk around as

15 a --

16 A. Like a classroom aide.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And your work with Mr. Weidman ended

20 November '05, approximately?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And when did you start working with Sue

23 Fetterolf?

A. About the same time, October, November. I

17 (Pages 62 to 65)

1 mean, like I said, there was a period of transition.

- 2 I know that I finished with Sue's class prior to
- 3 winter break.
- 4 O. And when is winter break?
- 5 Our winter break is in the middle of
- December. Their winter break was right before 6
- 7 Christmas.
- 8 Q. So you worked -- and did you start with Sue's
- 9 class early November, late November? How many weeks
- 10 did you work in Sue's class?
- It wasn't the amount of weeks. It was the 11
- 12 amount of hours. We had to be in the classroom 35 to
- 13 40 hours.
- 14 Q. Total?
- 15 A. Total.
- 16 Q. I see.
- 17 So it was the amount of hours that you
- 18 were in the classroom for junior block. It wasn't the
- 19 amount of weeks that you were in for student teaching.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. That's the main difference.
- 22 O. Okav.
- 23 It's kind of like a building block to get
- 24 you to student teaching.

Page 66 Page 68 not teach the whole section or semester. It was just

- 2 one small part of her whole session with them.
- 3 So if I understand this, Sue Fetterolf had the
- 4 responsibility for planning and developing the
- 5 particular lesson and she then had you implement a
- portion of her curriculum? 6
- 7 She had the curriculum set up. She showed 8 me her schedule. I chose which part or which
- 9 section --
- 10 O. I see.
- 11 A. -- I would like to teach. I gave her my
- 12 lesson plan, what I was planning on doing with the 13
 - students, she okayed that. After that point, I taught
- 14 that lesson to the students.
- Q. Okay. And each mini lesson is how long? 15
- It was one to two class periods. 16 A.
- 17 Q. Okay. And a class period is 60 minutes?
- 18 They had block scheduling, so it was
- 19 approximately an hour and a half. Hour, 15 minutes,
- 20 hour and a half, depending on the school.
- 21 Q. Okay. And you did two of those for Sue?
- 22 Yeah, well, two for the one class, which
- 23 is SAT prep. The other class was English 10, 10th
- 24 grade. They were working with concepts by Benjamin

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- Q. Sure. And what did you do in Sue Fetterolf's 1
- 2 class?
- 3 I was in charge or -- I shouldn't say "in
- 4 charge," but responsible for two different classes.
- 5 She had English 10 and then she --
- 6 Q. 10th grade?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay.
- 9 And then she had an SAT prep class, which
- was more 11th grade students. There were no seniors. 10
- 11 And I went into the classroom several times. I
- 12 observed her a lot, and then I taught two or three
- mini lessons, and that was my time there. 13
- 14 Q. Okay. What's a mini lesson?
- 15 Not a full concrete section of learning.
- 16 It's one lesson that's coupled with what the teacher
- is also teaching. They were going through different 17
- 18 books in SAT prep. They had to read Huckleberry Finn,
- 19 for example. Another book they had to read was Black
- 20 Boy. So I had to teach a section of Black Boy to the
- 21 students.
- 22 Q. I see.
- 23 And connect it to their lives. Or at
- least that's what I did within my mini lesson. 1 did

- Page 69 1 Franklin. So I taught them about Benjamin Franklin
 - 2 and taught them about his expertise in English, how he
 - 3 owned a printing press, and we played Jeopardy to prep
 - 4 them for -- prep them for a test that they were
 - 5 having. So that was my expertise in that.
 - 6 Q. All right. You went, as I understand it, then,
 - in January '06, January 16th and 17th, to a student
 - teacher meeting at Millersville?
 - Α. Correct.
 - MR. VOIGT: This might be a good time to take a short break.
 - MR. KRAMER: Absolutely. I was thinking the same thing.

(Brief recess.)

BY MR. KRAMER:

- 18 Q. Let's now talk about Reinking and your student
- 19 teaching semester. Tell me what happened. You had
- 20 this, what appears to be a two-day student teaching
- 21 seminar at Millersville. What was that about?
- 22 A. I actually met -- or hold on one second.
- 23 Yes. Q.
 - Are you questioning the seminar or are you A.

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questioning my experience with Reinking. 1

- 2 I'm using the seminar as a segue to Reinking.
 - A. Okay.

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- 4 So tell me about Reinking? O.
 - A. I wanted to clarify that.

6 MR. VOIGT: I'm going to object to the 7 question. "Tell me about Reinking"? Be a

- 8 little more specific.
- 9 BY MR. KRAMER:
- 10 Q. How did you first meet Reinking, when did you 11 meet her?
- 12 I was introduced -- well, I was told that 13 Reinking would be my student teacher. We actually 14 have to contact our student teachers. That's one of
- 15 our respon -- I'm sorry, our cooperating teacher.
- That's one of our responsibilities --16
- 17 O. Okay.
- 18 A. -- as a student teacher. We have to 19 contact them, set up an initial meeting with them. My
- initial meeting with Reinking took place before the 20
- 21 semester began. It actually took place before the
- 22
- 23 Seminar, meaning in mid January --Q.
- 24 A. Yes.

- class of teaching, and then the last few weeks of 1
 - teaching or the teaching experience I would be 2
 - 3 observing again.
 - 4 Q. Okay. And that's the way it's supposed to work

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- 5 for all the student teachers, correct?
 - A. Correct.
- 7 Q. So you and Reinking met sometime in early
 - January '06?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 O. Where did you meet?
- 11 In -- there's a small room in the
- 12 communications department and -- it's a small
- 13 lunchroom.
- 14 Q. At Conestoga Valley?
- At Conestoga Valley. We met in the small 15 16 meeting room. She went over the types of documents,
- books, publications, small -- short stories, anything 17
- 18 that I would have to be responsible for teaching that
- 19 I would need to read. I had very little prior
- knowledge in British literature before the teaching 20
- 21 experience, so there were a lot of things that I
- 22 needed to read and prep myself on.
- 23 Q. Such as?
- 24 A. I never read The Seafarer, and I had to

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- Q. -- that seminar?
- Before the seminar in mid January at
- Millersville. I met with her concerning my background
- 4 with British literature, what her curriculum entailed,
- 5 her process with the curriculum, how many weeks she normally spent on each thing, what my responsibilities 6
- 7 would be in the classroom, what I wanted to start off
- 8 doing.

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- And it was her first student teaching
- 10 experience, as well as mine. It was her first time
- being a cooperating teacher and first time myself being a student teacher. So she was aware of the 12
- 13 process. I was aware of the process as far as how
- 14 many weeks you're supposed to spend, and you're
- 15 supposed to build up teaching all the classes and
- 16 you're supposed to bump yourself back down.
- Q. What does that mean, build yourself up, bump 17
- 18 yourself back down?
- 19 You're supposed to start off with one
- 20 class after a period of time of not teaching, of
- 21 observing your teacher. You're supposed to bump up to
- 22 the next level, take on all of the classes that are
- 23 available, in my case it would be three classes, bump
- 24 myself back down to two, bump myself back down to one

Page 73 1 read that. I had to teach Hamlet and Macbeth, which I

- 2 was fine on, I read those things in Shakespeare class;
- 3 however, a large portion of the course was a poetry 4 course, a poetry unit, involving a lot of English and
- 5 British poetry that I never had experience with
- before. So I had to read through that poetry, figure 6
 - out the meaning of the poem, so I was able to teach it
- 8 to the student. 9

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During that meeting we went over vaguely what I would be doing that semester. It started off 10 11 right away with me going into a poetry unit with her

- 12 at week three, after observing her for two weeks.
- 13 Q. Okay.
 - A. And I basically would take on the classes and bump back down. That was the impression at that
- 17 Let's go back. So you met at Conestoga Valley 18 in this little room. How long did you meet for? An
- 19 hour, half hour?
- 20 A. Yeah, approximately an hour. Not too 21
- long. 22 Q. Okay. This was a meet and greet, basically, an
- 23 introduction --24 A. Correct.

19 (Pages 70 to 73)

1 O. -- to each other?

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A. Correct.

3 Q. So when did you first then go to Conestoga

4 Valley to actually attend her class?

A. I went and observed in her classroom.

Unfortunately, the semesters didn't match up with the

7 student teaching experience. The second semester for

Conestoga Valley ended a little bit after I started my 8

9 student teaching placement. So it was a good time for

me to observe Nicole in the classroom; however, it was 10

with students that were not going to be my students. 11

O. Okay. The Conestoga Valley first semester ended 12

13 sometime mid January or end of January?

14 No, second semester.

Q. Second semester? 15

Yes, ended mid January. 16 Α.

17 Q. Okay.

And then they had their midterms. 18 A.

19 O. Okay.

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Midterm finals. A.

21 Q. Right.

22 And then the third semester started up

23 shortly after that, the third semester, and then a

24 fourth semester, which was not finished by the time I

Page 74 been familiar with before?

> 2 No. This was the poetry that I had to research and read and understand and decipher on my 3

Page 76

Page 77

4 own before teaching the students.

Q. Okay. Is this The Seafarer or --

6 The Seafarer is -- no. that's a short A. 7 story.

8 Q. All right. So what are you -- what poetry?

9 Sort of what are you talking about there? And I'm not 10

testing you. I just want to get of sense of what 11 you --

12 No, like elegies, short poems. Gray was a 13 poet, an English poet. Just different types of poets

14 and their poetry that was most famous that the

15 students could either connect with or they would have

16 in college.

17 Q. And the poetry section, whose curriculum was it?

Was it the school's curriculum and you just -- I mean, 18

19 you didn't develop that curriculum, did you? 20

I worked off of Nicole's, Nicole

21 Reinking's, curriculum at that point.

O. Okay. And was there a book that the kids used? 22

Yes, they had an English textbook.

24 Q. Okay.

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Page 75

left.

2 Q. All right.

Their fourth semester would have ended 3 4 right before graduation.

5 Q. Their fourth semester ends in June,

6 approximately?

> Yeah, approximately June, because they were seniors. So whenever -- yeah, whenever their graduation preparation occurred, that's when they

10 stopped with their classes.

Q. So you observed her teaching a class for a 11 12

couple weeks. What dates, when to when,

13 approximately?

14 Approximately the middle of January, 15 probably around the 20th sometime, to the beginning of

the third semester. I don't have that date off the 16

top of my head. Before February 1st. 17

18 Q. Okay. That's my question.

And when -- when you're finished observing, and we'll say approximately February 1st, you went into her class -- you were in her classroom.

22 What were you supposed to do at that point?

23 I began teaching the poetry unit.

Q. And was this a -- was this poetry that you had

1 And the poems were in the English

textbook. If it was a poem that wasn't in the English

textbooks, it was few and far between. Most of the 3

4 poems that we used were right there in front of them

5 in the book.

6 Q. Did you have a special teacher's edition?

> Yes. A.

Q. And what makes it special?

9 There's annotated text. There's things on

10 the side. I mean, you know, you have the regular page

11 and then there was a margin on the side with notes, 12 cues you could give your students or, you know, this

13 is what this means. Like was actually telling the

14 teacher what it meant, so they could pass it on to the

students. Things like that.

Q. Oh, man. Okay. You taught this poetry unit?

It's a unit? Is that how you --17

Yes. Yeah. Two weeks.

19 Q. Okay. For two weeks to which class or which

20 block?

> There was second and third block that I taught the poetry unit to. In the third marking

22 23 period the first block was a prep period, which I

24 would get my notes together, make copies, whatever I

- 1 needed to do to teach the other lessons. Fourth --
- fourth block in marking period three was a creative 2
- writing course that essentially Nicole was responsible 3 4 for.
- 5 O. The kids you were teaching were in what grade? 12th.
- 6 A. 7 Q. Okay. Did you teach any 9th graders at
- 8 Conestoga Valley?
- There was -- believe it or not, there was 9 10 a 9th grader who was advanced, and she was in -- she was in the advanced composition course, which was in 11
- 12 fourth marking period for me.
- Q. Okay. So this 9th grader was taking classes 13 with 12th graders? 14
 - Yeah, an advanced composition course. A.
- Was she the only --16 Q.
- 17 I'm sorry, she was a 10th grader.
- 18 10th grader. Q.

15

- 19 A. The 9th grade students -- let me go back
- to the cumulative project I did with Weidman. The --20
- I called it, for my students, the Writing Partners 21
- 22 Project. Basically my seniors and then my 10th grade
- student were coupled with the 9th grade students --23
- 24 O. Okay.

- Page 79
- A. -- in Ms. Clark's class, which was right 1 2 beside us.
- 3 Q. I see.
- They assisted and worked with 9th grade 4 A.
- students to help them with their writing if they had a 5 6 writing problem. Basically what I did in Neil's class
- 7 with his student I had my seniors do in the advanced
- 8 composition class with the 9th grade students.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. It was very enriching, because not only
- 11 were they learning something about writing, my 12th 12 graders and my 10th grader, but they were also able to
- 13 see the problems in the 9th grade writing and decipher
- 14 them.
- Q. And what was -- what, if anything, was Nicole 15
- 16 Reinking's involvement in that, that you just
- 17 described?
- 18 A. Nothing.
- 19 O. Okay.
- 20 A. That was the --
- 21 That was separate? Q.
- 22 Yeah, that was the unit I planned on my
- 23 own.
- 24 Q. Okay. And that was separate and apart from your

Page 80 student teaching at Conestoga Valley in which Reinking

- 2 was your co-op?
- 3 A. No, it was part of that.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 It was just one of the classes and one of A.
- the things I did in the classes. 6
- 7 O. I see. Okay.
- 8 The only unit that Nicole had control
- 9 over, if you can say "control," but it was her
- 10 curriculum, was the poetry unit. I developed lesson
- plans based on her curriculum. And the only other 11
- 12 separate responsibility that she took part in was the
- 13 research project.
- 14 Okay. Q.
- 15 A. The research paper that the seniors have
- to complete, Nicole took care of that completely. I 16
- did not have any part in that. 17
- 18 Q. Okay. When teaching this unit on poetry, would
- you teach the entire block, meaning 80 to 90 minutes? 19
- 20 Most instances yes. There were times that
- 21 Nicole got up there and taught a little bit, short
- 22 period of time, or she introduced the class into a
- 23 poem. The last part, or the main part, of the unit
- 24 was the students took the responsibility. The

- students had to evaluate a poem, decipher a poem, 1
- interpret the poem, and then teach it to the class. 2
- So a lot of that unit were the students teaching the 3 4 students.
- Q. I see. 5
- 6 To grab the poem, understand the poem for
- 7 what it was worth. Now, if they were totally
- 8 incorrect, then Nicole or myself would step in and say
- 9 "Now, wait." Yeah, which did happen, unfortunately,
- 10 but...
- 11 Q. And so, but what was your -- what were your
- 12 responsibilities, then, with respect to the poetry
- 13 unit?
- 14 I would teach them poems.
- 15 Q. For a certain period of time in the class?
- 16 A. Right.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 I would pair the students up to give them A.
- 19 the projects. I would give them not only their
- 20 partner, but I would give them the poem that they were
- 21 responsible for.
- 22 Right. Q.
- 23 I gave them -- I came up with lesson plans
- 24 for that unit, and then we followed those lesson

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l plans.

2 Q. And while you were teaching -- while you were in

3 front of the class teaching, what would Nicole

4 Reinking be doing generally?

A. Most of the time, at that point, she would

6 be in the back of the classroom.

7 Q. Okay. She's observing?

A. Or -- yeah. Like her desk was back here

9 at that point. (Indicating.)

10 Q. Okay. During the poetry unit, I mean, any

11 student teacher's learning how to be a teacher.

12 That's why you're a student teacher. Describe your

13 interactions, if any, with Reinking either before or

14 after class.

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15 A. At that point in the semester we would

16 meet, have conversations about not only the lesson

17 plans, but since I wasn't totally familiar with the

18 context, you know --

19 Q. With the British poetry?

20 A. -- with the poetry, I talked to her about,

you know, "Well, what do you think this means, this

22 poetry means?" Because a lot of the things we were

23 teaching were ambiguous, it did have different

24 meanings, but I needed to know what meaning she wanted

1 A. Observe or --

2 Q. Observe Nicole Reinking?

A. Yeah, or prep for the next day.

4 Either/or. It wasn't every day I was doing the same

Page 84

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5 thing. I had different things to do. Now, that was

6 in third marking period. Fourth marking period --

7 O. Well, let's --

A. Okay. Okay.

9 Q. You'll get ahead of me.

A. Okay. Sorry.

11 Q. In the first block, 80 to 90 minutes long, if I

12 understand, how much time -- would you and she spend

13 typically the entire time discussing your --

14 A. No, not the entire time.

15 Q. Okay. How much time would you and she talk?

A. It depended on how many questions I had.

17 Anywhere from 15 minutes to 45 minutes. It wouldn't

18 be more than an hour that we would spend talking. And

19 the times that we spent 45 minutes, it would be about

20 numerous things, it wouldn't be about just one thing.

21 We would be talking about several poems or things that

22 I needed to prepare for for the following units.

23 Various things we talked about.

24 Q. Did you find her helpful?

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1 me to teach the class.

2 Q. All right.

A. We met after -- you know, after class sometimes. But most of the time if we would ta

sometimes. But most of the time if we would talk we would talk in the prep period, first block prep

6 period --

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. -- before we had the classes. I was 9 responsible for giving her, you know, lesson

responsible for giving her, you know, lesson plans or at least an idea of what I was doing that day.

11 Q. Okay.

A. And we would talk about it at that time.

13 Q. All right. So first period, first block for

14 each of you was free?

A. Yes.

16 Q. All right.

17 A. Second block was non-traditional, or

18 non-college-bound, students.

19 Q. Okay.

A. Third block was college-bound students.

21 Q. Okay.

A. And then in her fourth block period was

23 college-bound students.

24 Q. And what would you do during fourth period?

A. At that point, yes.

Q. At some point did you find her not helpful?

A. Yes.

4 O. Okav.

A. Which I talked to Mr. Girvin about.

6 Q. Okay. Just tell me when you spoke to Mr. Girvin

7 about her not being helpful, in terms of the

8 chronology of --

9 A. It was right after -- it was about, I want

10 to say, a week to two weeks after midterm, after the

11 midterm evaluation.

12 Q. Okay. So end of March?

A. Yeah.

14 Q. Okay. Before the midterm evaluation, and just

15 generally, so we're talking about really February 1st,

16 more or less, to mid March --

A. Okay.

18 Q. -- describe your interactions with her on a

19 daily basis. You talked about first period. How did

20 you find her, at that point in time, helpful? What

21 was she doing to help you as a teacher?

A. Well, I didn't understand -- or I

23 shouldn't say "understand." I didn't have the

4 experience with the British literature in college. A

- 1 lot of the documents I would ask her, you know, "Your
- experience reading this, what interpretation did you
- get?" "I have to read this. When do I have to read 3
- it by?" Asking her a lot of questions that would help 4
- me with preparation. 5
- O. About the substance of what you were teaching? 6
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Okay.
- 9 On the other part, I was -- I will --
- 10 won't deny I was having some problems with getting the
- class under control, especially second block, the 11
- non-traditional students, or providing them with 12
- motivation. So I talked to her about that, how can I 13
- become a better teacher to motivate them, keep them 14
- from not sleeping, keep them from not talking, those 15
- type situations. 16
- Q. Okay. 17
- 18 Because I was getting frustrated, in that
- first part of the semester, that I wasn't grasping 19
- them like I should. I had wanted to grasp them 20
- 21 better, teach them better, have them listen to me and
- 22 respect me.

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- 23 Q. Okay. You're saying the students were sort of
- acting out, they were sleeping, they were talking.

- 1 after my midterm evaluation I transitioned into the
 - 2 teacher, quote, unquote, the teacher, and having a lot
 - 3 more involvement with the parents to enforce these
 - 4 rules in class.
 - 5 Q. Okay. What is -- what does that mean, you
 - 6 transitioned to becoming the teacher? What does that
 - 7 mean, in terms of on a daily basis, how did it change?
 - 8 Yeah. I was -- you know, I was always the
 - 9 teacher, but I didn't have the respect from the
 - 10 students. I didn't have the rules set down the way I
 - should properly. And that was part of my classroom 11
 - preparation. And I was having a lot of issues with 12 13 that.
 - 14 So with the midterm evaluation I saw, you
 - 15 know, I really need to make a change. I don't want an
 - unsatisfactory at the end of this year. So I 16
 - 17 transitioned to more forceful rules, enforcing
 - 18 detentions, calling parents, setting a ground line for
 - 19 the students, and if they didn't adhere to it there
 - 20 was -- there were consequences, so...
 - 21 Q. Okay. If you turn to the next set of documents.
 - 22 These are the documents. (Indicating.)
 - A. Okay.
 - O. We're going to call this Snyder-3. If you would 24

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- Was that -- was that upsetting to you?
- 2 I think it was upsetting to me and Nicole.
- 3 Q. Okay. And what else, if anything, were the
- 4 students doing?
- 5 No, it was just basically the talking,
 - periodic sleeping, motivation for them to do their
- 7 work either in class or outside of class. I would
- 8 give homework assignments, and a lot of the time the
- 9 second block students, or the non-traditional
- 10 students, would refuse to do their homework at home.
- Q. Okay. 11
- 12 And that's one of the problems with A.
- teaching seniors, they have senioritis and they really 13 don't care. 14
- 15 Q. Okay.
- Unfortunately. 16 A.
- 17 How about with respect to the third block?
- Third block, you know, there were still 18
- 19 some students that were not motivated, still some
- 20 students that were sleeping. I actually had one
- 21 student in particular that would try to sleep on a
- 22 regular basis in class.
- 23 So I -- you know, I did have those
- problems the first half of the semester. And then 24

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Page 88

- take a look at these documents, just look at them 1
- 2 briefly.

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- 3 A. Mm-hmm.
- 4 Q. Have you seen these before?
 - Yes. A.
- Q. Okay. When did you see these before? 6
 - From Mark.
- 8 Okay. Did you see any of these documents --
 - And when she wrote -- after she wrote
- 10 them.
- 11 Q. Okay. That was my question.
 - Most of them, I should say. A.
- 13 Q. All right.
- 14 The last few in the packet, like where
- 15 there are not a whole bunch of notes, but there are
- notes, especially this last page, I did not see. 16
 - Q. Okay. Well, let's -- these documents are
- 18 numbered at the bottom, actually, CVSD, starting with
- 19 206.
- 20 Α. Okay.
- Q. Just go through this and tell me which ones you 21
- 22 saw with Nicole Reinking.
- 23 (Pause.) I did not see 214.
- 24 Q. Okay. But you saw -- did you see, with Nicole

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Page 90

- Reinking, 206 through 213? 1
- Yes. 2 A.
- 3 All right. O.
- 4 I cannot recall 215. Doesn't mean she 5 didn't show it to me.
- 6 Q. Okay.

7

- 218 I did not see, 219 and 220. A.
- 8 You did or did not see 219 and 220?
- 9 And 222. I do not remember seeing -- I don't recall seeing these. 10
- 11 O. At the time?
- 12 At the time. The other documents, I can vividly recall her showing me her notes or even 13 handing me her notes as a reference. 14
- Q. Okay. How about 253? I'm sorry. 15
- 16 A. No.
- Q. All right. The ones that you did see, let's 17
- 18 talk about those. How would she show these to you?
- 19 We would have a meeting, like I said,
- 20 normally during prep period, because the period of
- 21 time in between block 2 to block 3 and then block 3 to
- block 4 was very small. It was only about five 22
- 23 minutes. So we didn't have a lot of time to talk. So
- 24 we would sit down separately.

Page 92 Q. So in other words, she would give you the notes

- the next morning, when you were in prep session? 2
- 3 A. Right.
- 4 Q. And that's when you would discuss them?
 - Right. A.
- 6 Q. Okay.
 - For the notes she gave me. A.
- 8 Yes, right, I understand.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. We're only talking about the notes -- obviously, 10 if you didn't have it and she didn't give it to you, 11
- 12 then you didn't discuss that particular page.

Was she -- and we're talking now about the 13 14 period when you're just starting, February 1st through 15 mid-evaluation, mid March. March 20th, actually. What criticisms did she -- what criticisms of your 16

17 performance did she have for you?

> Some of the poems I didn't completely understand, and I had a problem when the students would ask me a question. Obviously, because I never had any type of education on the subject before, so I

- 21 22 was kind of teaching myself as I went along, or she
- 23 was teaching me. So if I really had a problem
- 24
 - grasping a concept of a poem, she would take me aside

Page 91

- 1 And the notes that she took here minute by 2 minute were a little bit different than the glows and
- 3 the grows. That's what we would focus on.
- Q. You and she -- you would focus and discuss with 4 her the minute by minute? 5
 - No, we would not focus on the minute by minute; however, we would focus on the glows and grows.
- 9 Q. Okay. The more general observations?
 - Yes, what I needed to work on and what was great at the time, and -- but that's what we did per class. Now, if there was an issue with the students sleeping that she wrote that down in the minute by minute notes, she would tell me about that. Or, for
- 16 Q. Right.

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17 A. -- it says it went off twice and I kept

instance, this fire drill on the first page --

- going. You know, she would say, you know, you did a 18
- good job with that. 19 20 Q. All right.
- 21
- Basic, general things.
- 22 She would give you these notes at what point in O. the day? 23
- 24 A. Not after the class. When we talked.

afterwards and say, well, this is what it really 1 2

meant.

- 3 Q. Was she helpful in that respect, in teaching you 4 the poetry?
 - A. In the poetry, yes.
- 6 Q. Okay.
 - Can you -- can you ask me the question again? I don't remember the question. I'm sorry.
- 8 9 Q. Yeah, talking about the first half of the semester, as it were, for you, February 1st, 10
 - approximately, to mid March, what criticisms of hers
- 12 did she share with you?
- 13 Those criticisms, as well as gaining A. 14 control of the students. That was -- the biggest
 - thing in the first half of the semester was I never
- 16 had an experience with students that did not listen, 17 and I was having trouble gaining that respect, having
- 18 them motivated to stay awake, making sure they did
- 19 their work. Not only did they -- making it aware that
- 20 they understood the concepts, but above and beyond
- 21 that, were they even listening to me to understand the 22 concepts.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 So those types of things she took me

aside. There was an instance where I said "Shut up" 1

- 2 to the students one time, and she took me aside
- 3 afterwards, it's in her notes, and she said, you know,
- you can't do that, because they have all the control 4
- and they know that they have all the control if you 5
- say something like that to them. So after that point, 6 7 you know, it wasn't an issue.

Those type of things she said to the side, when we were in our prep period, so none of the students were around.

- O. Okay. She -- I note she said, Nicole said, that 11 12 you said "Shut up" on at least one occasion to the 13 students.
- 14 Yes, it was my second block class. A.
- Q. Okay. Let me ask the question. 15
- 16 A. Okay.

8

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- 17 Q. Do you recall saying "Shut up" to the students 18 more than one time?
- 19 No. A.
- O. Okay. Just the one time, then? 20
- 21 The one time in my second block class.
- And unfortunately, the second block class and the 22
- 23 third block class, some of them are friends, and it
- got around that I said "Shut up" to the second block 24

- type of things that she did.
 - 2 Q. Did she raise concerns about your use of
 - 3 language, your grammar, in class?
 - 4 A. She did during the midterm pla -- I mean,
 - 5 I'm sorry, midterm evaluation, but not too much
 - 6 throughout. I mean, she would say, "Hey, do you know
 - 7 during that DOLA exercise you forgot a comma," or "You

Page 96

Page 97

- 8 didn't explain this properly." And she would say very
- 9 basic, once-sentence comments to me. Not, hey, let's
- 10 sit down, we really have to talk about your
- 11 performance. That didn't happen until midterm --
- 12 O. Okav.

13

15

- -- evaluation. A.
- 14 O. And DOLA stands for?
 - A. · Daily oral language.
- O. And what does that entail? 16
- 17 Basically the students, my son does this
- in 5th grade, but the students receive one to two 18
- 19 sentences in which they have to change the grammar or
- 20 even put a capitalization or -- you know, capitalize
- the first letter of the sentence and put a period at 21
- 22 the end.
- 23 O. So there's a sentence that you use an overhead,
- 24 put it on the board?

Page 95

- class. So the third block class mentioned something 1
- 2 to me about it.

4

- 3 What did they say? Q.
 - "You said 'Shut up' to the students. Can
- we say 'Shut up'?" And, you know, those basic type of 5
- 6 things that obviously seniors are gonna joke around
- 7 with you about to try to take it to their advantage.
- 8 And I actually made it a classroom rule. It was on
- 9 the -- I made 12 rules, and one of the rules was we
- will not say "Shut up" in class. 10
- 11 O. Okay. Did she -- did Nicole Reinking offer you
- additional -- what kind of assistance did she offer to 12
- you during the first half of the semester that we're 13
- 14 talking about?
- 15 Like I said, the books to help me along A. 16 with the class. She actually had a drawer full of
- handouts, and she said, "Maybe some of these will be 17
- useful to you." She said if I never -- if I was in a 18
- position where I didn't understand something, that she 19
- 20 could step in and teach the students, so they would be
- 21 understanding of the subject and that I wouldn't have
- 22 to kind of dilly dally around the issue.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 A. Or avoid the issue. So those were the

There's either an overhead or I would 1 Α. 2 write it on the board.

- 3 Q. Okay.
- 4 They would have two sentences in which A. 5 they would have to correct all the mistakes.
- 6 Q. In other words, you're writing -- purposely
- 7 you're making a mistake or two --
 - Right. Α.
- 9 Q. -- in the exercise, and they're supposed to fix
- 10 it?

8

- Right.
- 12 Q. And does that involve the whole class, you
- 13 know --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. Okay. Any other criticisms, criticism, that she 16 discussed with you the first several weeks of the --
- 17 The only other thing that I can think of
- 18 -- well, two other things. I was helping out with her
- 19 fourth block class, creative writing, I wasn't
- 20 actually teaching the class, and I had them do a
- 21 journal entry, and I played music in the background.
- And, unfortunately, the one song had the word "ass" in 22
- 23 it, and that was something that she took me aside
- 24 afterwards and said, "Hey, listen, you have to be more

1 concerned about those things. You can't play music 2 with that type of language." So from that point on I

only had CDs that I reviewed beforehand, or previewed beforehand, to make sure there were no swear words. 4

5 The only other thing was a lot of the times I would get to the classroom at 7 o'clock to 6 7 do --

8 O. In the morning?

9 In the morning, to do prep, and the 10 classroom was locked. And I -- there was no way for me to get in except to find a janitor or to have 11 another teacher open the classroom for me. So I had 12 mentioned something at one point "Do the student 13 teachers get keys so they can get into the classrooms 14 first thing in the morning? 15

Q. You asked Reinking? 16

17 No, I did not. That was the problem, I did not ask Reinking. I asked one of the teachers or 18 the janitor. I can't remember which. But I did ask 19 20 them that. Nicole said that was not using the proper 21 chain of command. Obviously, the answer was no, that

22 the student teachers didn't get keys, which I was

23 unaware of, but that I didn't use the proper chain of

command, that I needed to ask her that one on one.

1 When was that?

2 A. I took Strattera for my hyperactivity. 3

Page 100

It's just...

4 Q. When? Like what year or years?

5 Oh, I took it prior to student teaching and after student teaching, but my insurance got 6 7 dropped, so I haven't been taking it now. So I can't

8 afford it.

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Q. You were not taking it during student teaching?

10 No, it wasn't -- my attention deficit, I normally can keep it under control without medicine. But with 18 credits in a semester and working and my

12 13 children, it came to be a problem.

14 Q. Okay.

> A. And since this has all taken place, my anxiety has fueled my hyperactivity. So at periods of time I needed to take it for a period of time.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. But normally I can keep it under control 20 on my own.

21 Q. Okay. Did Reinking raise concerns with you that

22 the kids weren't -- that the kids weren't

23 understanding what you were trying to teach? 24

She said some -- it seemed like some of A.

Page 99

1 O. For a key?

2

3

4

For a key or anything like that. And so they were the only other two things that I think were major that she ever said to me.

5 Q. Okay. Did she raise concerns about your 6 spelling?

7 A. She said -- she asked me if I was a strong 8 speller, and I told her, unfortunately, I was not.

9 And that's when she passed on the grammar spelling 10 book to me.

11 Q. Okay.

And I told her that has always been an 12 13 issue. And I think that comes down to my 14 hyperactivity and my attention deficit that I have,

15 and it's just that I can't really sometimes focus or

16 I'm moving so quickly with my hyperactivity that I

17 misspell words. And she did say, you know, you have

18 to be more careful of those things, especially if it's

19 a handout that the whole class is getting. Things

20 like that.

21 Q. Do you take medication for your hyperactivity? 22

No, not right now.

23 Q. At some point did you? 24

Yes. A.

Page 101 the second block students did not understand the

2 material, that I might want to go over it again. But

3 that was a general concern that she said anybody

4 teaching a second block class might have those issues. 5

Okay. And why is that? Because these are 6 non-traditional students?

> A. Yeah.

Q. Okay.

They're not -- I mean, that wasn't like an exact quote from her, but it was a general -- a general idea that was given.

Q. Okay. In other words, the third class, the 12 13 college prep kids --

They're going to be more understanding of these concepts, as opposed to the non-traditional students.

17 O. Okav.

Who really haven't had an interaction with 18 19 this type of material before.

20 Q. Okay. All right. The second block,

21 non-traditional students, are those the kind of kids

22 who generally are probably not going to go to college,

23 they'll ---

24 A. Correct.

Page 102 Q. -- get a job wherever they get it, correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Okay. Just to understand.

Go to CVSD-212. 4

Okav.

Q. Is this one of the pages that she gave to you 6

7 to --

1

5

10

8 Yes. A.

9 -- look at? O.

Did you and she discuss what's on this

page? 11

12 A. Yes.

13 Describe For me your discussion with her, to the extent you can remember. I know this was a long time 14

15

ago. 16

A. I have to look over it.

17 Q. Oh, yeah, absolutely.

(Pause.) I can remember her being 18

frustrated, because the students, even though they 19

20 were understanding some of the concepts, there was so

21 much talking that not all of the students could

22 understand.

23 The handful of students that were in that

24 class that were really trying hard, that really wanted

1 Q. Oh, okay.

> 2 And we had a speaker coming into both

3 second and third block class to talk to them, to

4 explain to them, you know, what your options are. "If

Page 104

you're interested, you can take a postcard and send it 5

6 back to us." But I said that to them the day before

7 the speaker came in, you know, "I hope you give the

8 speaker more respect than you give me." I was trying

9 to get across to them that it seems like they give me 10

no respect.

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11 Q. Okay. And did these students respond to that

12 comment when you made it?

Not that I remember.

14 Q. Okay. Go to the next page, 213. At the top it

says "We've discussed: 1. Shut up; 2. Parent 15

follow-ups; 3. Chain of command; 4. Block activities." 16

Do you remember any of that discussion about any of 17 18

those four items?

Yeah, the "Shut up" was when I said "Shut up" in class and she said that I'm not getting the

21 respect from the students.

22 Q. Okay.

> A. "Parent follow-ups," I was having trouble

with -- if I was having trouble with the students in

Page 103

to succeed, couldn't hear or couldn't grasp the 1

2 concepts, because the other five students were

talking. And she was really frustrated, because she 3

4 knew I was trying and that they weren't listening.

5 And I remember that part of the conversation

6 distinctly.

7 Q. Okay.

8 Yeah, I mean, basically that's the only

9 thing I can remember off the top of my head about that

conversation. I know that -- I mean, what it says 10

here I can -- I can read it, but I can't remember the 11

12 actual conversation.

13 Q. Got it. In the margin on the left it says, in

quotes, I hope you give the speaker more respect than 14

you give me, end quotes. What is that? 15

There was a period of time, before my 16

17 midterm placement, where I felt that I had no respect

18 from the students. And there was a speaker coming in

to talk to them from Bradley Academy, to talk to the 19

20 students about that as a possible experience for them.

They could go to Bradley Academy for whatever reasons, 21

22 graphic arts or --

24

23 Q. What is Bradley Academy?

> It's a college. A.

Page 105 the classroom, following up with the parents, telling

1 2 them what the problem was.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. I was very nervous about contacting the

parents, and it was something that I had to work

6 through, and I changed the second half.

"Chain of command," obviously what I told

you about the key.

Q. Right, right, right, right.

And "Block activities," I'm not quite sure 10 11

what that's there for.

12 Q. Okay.

It might be that I need to get more

involved in block activities or have activities for

them during the block period. Sometimes when we had prep period we had students in the classroom. So

16

17 activities for them while they were in the classroom, 18 not just having them sit there and do nothing.

O. Okay. On the bottom, on the left, it says, in 19

20 quotes, Shouldn't be just one person doing all the work, end quotes. Do you recall what that refers to? 21

22 It might refer to group work, that I was telling them that one student might not be doing all 23

24 the work. I can't say for sure.

Page 106

1 Q. I mean, if you don't remember --

2 No.

3 -- just say you don't remember. Q.

4 A. I don't remember.

O. Okay. That's fine.

It seems to me, correct me if I'm wrong,

7 that most of her criticisms so far you understood and 8

accepted?

5

6

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Okay. At the bottom of the page, the second

item, it says "Language," quote, Shut the hell up, end 11

quote. And "you" -- crossed out "Stacy" -- "didn't 12

13 address it at all." Do you know what that refers to?

14 One student said it to another student.

15 Q. Okay. Did you hear the person, the student, say

that? 16

24

1

17 I don't remember.

Okay. Did you and Reinking discuss that? 18

Yes. That's why it was one of the rules 19

20 after the second half.

Q. Okay. Did you and she discuss her concerns that 21

22 the students in block 3 and perhaps block 2 weren't

23 feeling challenged?

> A. Block 3, that they might not be

really wanted to help the students learn --

2 O. Right.

3 -- and understand the material. A.

4 Go on to page 218. Had you seen this -- Page 108

Page 109

A.

-- document before?

7 A. No.

8 Q. All right. Just take a look at it, please.

9 A. (Pause.) Okay.

10 Q. And let me just draw your attention to a couple

of the items. 11

12 A.

O. Under 9:40, that time, sort of the center of the 13

14 page, it says you're circulating around the room,

15 that's good, but still talking around the room, and

Justin, Bree, David talking the entire time. Is that 16

17 true, false? Do you remember?

A. It was probably true with that class.

19 Unfortunately, Justin had dropped out halfway through

20 the class.

18

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21 Q. Dropped out of school?

22 Just stopped coming to class. Bree was a

23 very, very hard student. She was female. And then

24 David was a hard male, but then I got control over him

Page 107

challenged.

2 O. Describe that.

Two or three of the students that were in 3

4 block 3 were advanced, Honor Society advanced.

5 Q. Okay.

6 And she felt that maybe I needed to add a

7 little bit more work for those particular students, 8 that I needed to challenge them a little bit more, or

9 ask different questions where I was making them think

10 a little bit more than who is the character. Instead of asking who is the character, well, what impact do 11

12 you think that character had on this or what role did

13 they have in the whole theme of the play or -- where I

was challenging them a little bit more, it wasn't a 14

surface question. And that's what they wanted me to 15

16 do with third block.

17 Q. Okay. Was she right about that? Was Reinking

18 right that maybe they weren't being challenged enough? 19 Yes. I actually talked to a few of the

students and I said, "If you want extra work, I don't

have a problem giving that to you, so you're not 21

22 bored."

23 Q.

24 I asked them various things, because I 1 in the second half. I was very surprised he did a

2 turnaround. But Bree did challenge me the entire

3 time. And at that point they were -- they would talk

a lot, and they would try to push me as far as they

5 could. So I wouldn't doubt that that was correct.

6 Q. In the picture that you posted on the internet

that we'll talk about later, you refer to a Bree.

That is Brianne, my best friend. A.

9 O. Okay. That's not -- is that this Bree?

No. A.

Q. It's not that Bree? 11

> Α. No.

13 O. All right.

14 There's a Brianne who is my student,

Brianne Seminelli (ph), and then Brianne Dever, who is 15

16 my best friend.

17 Q. She's not one of your students, I take it.

Correct. Correct.

19 Q. It says, a couple lines below that, students are

20 rebelling. "This is hard." Do you know what that

21 means?

22 A. Maybe hard for her to watch?

23 Q. Okay.

24 I'm not sure.

1 Q. Was it your sense that the students were rebelling in block 2? 2

3 I think they were trying to push their 4 limits.

5 Q. Okay.

6

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Not so rebelling from what I said, but A. seeing how far they could push the student teacher.

Q. Did they get to you? Did they get under your skin and --

A. Especially when I said "Shut up," that day was probably the worst, and it was a learning lesson for me. But I think every teacher probably gets in

12 that position where they get so frustrated that it 13

14 happens.

15 Q. Okay. At the very bottom it says -- well, the

bottom right, "The kids just shout out and it's 16

17 chaos." Would you agree with that?

That was her personal opinion of it. 18

Q. Right. I'm asking your opinion. 19

I think at a point they started raising 20 21 their hands, because I made it an issue, "Start

raising your hands." And I said it so many times that 22

23 they started doing it.

I wouldn't -- I wouldn't even answer the

Page 112 your attention on a couple of things. (Pause.) Under

> 2 10:27, "Someone is talking, give her respect, and the

3 students just keep talking.'

l said, "Someone is talking, give her 4 A. respect." 5

6 O. Yeah, what -- what does this mean?

7 l asked what the theme of the poem was,

8 someone was answering, and somebody else was talking

9 above the person that was answering the question.

10 Q. Okay. Okay. And Reinking said, but the

11 students just kept talking. Is that true?

A. Yeah. 12

13 Q. At 10:29, "Packing up already." Was that not a

14 good -- was that a criticism, as far as you could

tell? What time did class end? 15

A. 10:35. 16

Q. Okav. 17

18 A. There could have been a reason for that.

19 I'm not sure.

Q. You don't remember? 20

21 No. I don't remember.

22 Q. Below that it says you lost a student's test and

23 the attendance roster. Is that true?

24 That was brought up to me, the student's A.

Page 111

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people that spoke out. If they started talking, "I 1

2 didn't see your hand raised," you know, and I would

stop, and I would actually call on the people that had 3

4 their hand raised. And a lot of the times it was the

5 same students that would raise their hands, but they

6 actually showed respect and raised their hands.

7 Q. Okay. 8

So I actually ignored -- started ignoring

9 the students that would just burst out.

O. But before you started enforcing those very 10 appropriate rules, at times was it chaos in the 11 12

classroom, as she writes here?

It could have been considered chaos. It wasn't out of control, but they would -- they would say, well, this is the answer, and I would "You have to raise your hand." I don't know if that's what they

were used to in other classes. I can't determine why 17

18 they were like that.

19 Q. That must have been frustrating, though?

20

21 Q. Go to the next page, 219. Did you see this one at the time?

22 23 A.

Okay. Well, look at it, and I'm going to focus 24

1 test, but I never lost the attendance roster. And

2 then I didn't lose the student's test. I misplaced

3 it. That person never had to retake the test.

4 Okay. So you found the test and --

A. Yes.

6 O. -- marked it?

> MR. VOIGT: I'm sorry, I don't know if the court reporter caught the end. Speak up.

> > THE WITNESS: Oh, sorry.

10 MR. VOIGT: Did you find that test?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

12 BY MR. KRAMER:

13 Q. Below that it says "Did not follow lesson plan."

Is that true, if you remember? 14

15 I don't remember. But there were times 16 that I had to deviate away from the lesson plan,

17 because you couldn't go concrete minute by minute

18 exactly to what the lesson plan said, because things

19 happened or the students had extra questions. Most of 20 the time I tried to stick to it.

21 Q. Okay. Go to page 222. Have you seen this one 22 before?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Okay. Look at it, and I'll ask you a couple

8

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1 questions. (Pause.) "Sir G, discussion ended at 2 10:40; Stacy needed text to discuss." Do you know

3 what that refers to?

4

5

6

It's Sir Gawain, and I needed a text to discuss it. It was one of those things I had no experience with before, another short story that I had

no experience with before. So I needed the text to 7

8 look back on to make sure that I was telling them the 9 right information. It's nothing that I had memorized.

10 Unfortunately, there was no way for me to memorize it

in that short period of time, because I was prepping 11

12 every day for the next lesson. So that I needed the

13 text in front of me to discuss it with the class.

Q. What is Sir Gawain? 14

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. It was a 15 story about two men -- basically test of courage. 16

17 Q. I mean, is it British literature?

Yes. 18 A.

19 Q. Okay. I'm not -- I'm not testing you.

20 No, no, no. No, no, no. That's okay.

21 That's okay.

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22 Q. Okay. I just -- what is it, that's -- okay.

23 Okay.

24 O. Below that, "Errors on PP." Page 114

1 evaluation, to start handing it in before, like a week

Page 116

Page 117

before, three days before, that she had time to look 2

it over to give me any suggestions or to say, no, you 3 4 can't do this.

5 O. Okay. Were you also supposed to give a lesson plan at certain times to Barry Girvin? 6

Yes.

Q. And how frequently? Every lesson or only when

9 he was going to come observe? 10

It was every lesson for the unit that I taught, which was Shakespeare; however, prior to that, only when he came to observe the classroom.

13 Q. Okay. And the Shakespeare, that was -- was that the circle project on Macbeth? 14

> A. Yes.

Q. Okay. Page 253, last page of this packet, have 16

17 you seen this before?

18 No. This is one I just kind of looked at 19 and shook my head the first time I saw it. I never saw it. 20

21 Well, when was the first time you saw it? Q.

When I saw the packet from Mark. 22 A.

23 Q. Okay.

24 But I never saw it from Nicole.

Page 115

A. PowerPoint.

2 PowerPoint.

Do you recall, and she says "evolving' should be 'involving', slide 3 quotations around poem titles, Kourtney caught the error," that was good. Do you remember those? I mean, is that correct? You don't remember?

A. I don't remember.

9 O. Okay.

It could have happened.

11 Q. Okay. Was part of your requirement to get the

lesson plan to her before class? 12

> Yes. A.

14 Q. Did you often not -- were you often not able to 15

do that?

It was -- the problem was, before midterm 16 17 placement, that I was actually getting her the lesson

18 plans the day before. So I was working on it two

nights for, you know, the next day. I was working on 19

20 it Monday, handing it in on Tuesday for a Wednesday

21 class.

22 Q. All right.

23 A. And that was an issue. She wanted it 24 before that. So I made it a point, after midterm

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Q. I see. Well, this is dated April 5th. At the

bottom it has several "grows," many students sleeping, 2 3

not sitting in assigned class -- assigned seats. Was that right, is she wrong? Do you remember?

A lot of times we were doing group work at that point, so they weren't assigned -- they had an assigned seat, but I would move them periodically. So if they were out of their assigned seats, that would make sense to me.

10 Students sleeping, I mean, I had issues 11 with students sleeping the whole entire time I was

there, and I tried to do things to reenforce the 12

13 importance of them staying awake. My one student

14 Meshi, in my third block class, consistently tried to

15 sleep through class, and he was one of my traditional students. Not saying that a traditional student 16

17 wouldn't do it above a non-traditional, but I had more

18 of an issue with the non-traditional students. But I

19 actually started to tally, how many days can Meshi

stay awake to get a pizza party. And that was my 20 21

incentive. So he would stay awake to actually pay 22 attention in class. And you know what, it started

23 working. So I tried. You know, it was hard.

24 Q. Okay. Finally, at the bottom it says "Still

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Page 118 letting the students tell you what to do." Was that a 1 2 problem still? 3 A. I didn't really have issues with the students telling me what to do after midterm, because 4 5 I really strictly enforced my policies that I had with 6 them. 7 MR. KRAMER: Okay. This is Snyder-3. 8 MR. VOIGT: Barry, let's take a short 9 break. 10 MR. KRAMER: Okay. 11 12 (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-3 was marked 13 for identification.) 14 15 (Brief recess.) 16 17 MR. KRAMER: Go to the next document. 18 This is Snyder-4. 19 20 (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-4 was marked 21 for identification.) 22 23 BY MR. KRAMER: 24 These are Barry Girvin's observations.

1 Normal things that you would do with an advisor.

2 Q. Okay. You said, at the beginning of the

3 deposition, you said at one point Nicole Reinking

4 stopped being helpful --

> Yes. A.

6 Q. -- to you in class.

> A. It seemed that way, yes.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. Or it was that way -- it felt that way to

10 me.

Q. Okay. 11

12 A. That would be a...

13 Q. Before that happened -- it sounds like a bit

after the midterm evaluations that, in your 14

15 perception, she stopped being helpful. Is it correct,

then, that, again, from February 1st, say, the midterm 16

evaluations, she seemed to be really trying to help 17 18 you become a better teacher?

Yeah. Yes. 19 Α.

20 Q. Okay. Do you have any criticisms of her during

21 that time period?

22 MR. VOIGT: Objection. What time period

23 are you talking about?

24 BY MR. KRAMER:

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Page 121

Page 120

- A. Yes. 1 2 Tell me what his involvement in your student 3 teaching was. What did he do?
- 4 Mr. Girvin guided me. That's the best 5 word, guided me through the process. He observed me at periods of time. He had to observe me so many 6 7 times, and I can't remember off the top of my head, 8 but he had to observe me so many times throughout the 9 semester, my semester at Millersville, to observe me

10 to see if I was doing things correctly. Based on those observations and things 11 12 that Nicole Reinking had told him, they made a final 13 determination for my midterm evaluation, my final 14 evaluation, and then the PDE form. He observed me, 15 gave me the grows and glows, things that I needed to work on, just like Nicole did, but he did it on a 16 17 higher level as far as this wasn't his first 18 experience. So he could compare me with other student teachers that he had in the past or his own teaching

19 20 style when he was a teacher. So he had that 21 experience. 22 Other than this, I did call him on 23 occasion to talk to him to get advice, to confide in him about stuff that -- problems that I was having.

- Q. February 1st through mid March. 1 2
 - As a person?
- 3 Q. As a person, as a co-op.
 - I didn't really have any interaction with
- 5 her personally, outside of the school.
- Q. But, I mean, personally, I mean, obviously you 6
- 7 were meeting only in school, but was she acting
- 8 professionally with you? That's really all that I
- 9 mean.

- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. And you have no -- and you don't have any
- 12 criticisms of her during that time period?
- 13 No. She did help me answer questions that
- 14 I had, gave me -- provided me resources, talked to
- 15 Mr. Girvin and myself as a group when we would go over
- 16 his documents.
- 17 Q. Okay. Again, in the period before, say, March
- 20th, I'm going to choose that as the time, at any 18
- 19 time -- in that period, at any time did you relate to
- Girvin your observations and impressions of Reinking? 20
- 21 Girvin might have asked me how things were A.
- 22 going, and I said fine.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 Basic, general talk. A.

- 1 O. Because things were -- I mean, they were going, 2 you know --
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. -- they were going okay? 4

Snyder-4 are Girvin's observations. It 5 appears that he came to observe you in class, based on 6

these, about eight times. Would you say that's right?

And look at the documents and tell me if that's right. 8

9 Yes. A.

- Q. Tell me how he and you would use these 10 evaluations. 11
- If there was time after a class period, if 12 13 I would have a prep period, he would meet with me
- 14 afterwards; or if there wasn't time, he would meet me
- the day afterwards or another period during the week, 15
- to go over what he observed. Most of the time it 16
- 17 wasn't right afterwards, because he had to prepare
- these documents. He might have provided me some 18
- feedback, like you want to work on this a little bit, 19
- 20 but most of the time we would meet at a later time to
- 21 go over what these forms said and what he observed the
- 22 whole class period.
- 23 Q. Was Reinking involved in those discussions?
- 24 Yes. A.

1 A. Yes.

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- 2 Q. In these pages he has some criticisms, some
- 3 compliments, observations. Anything here that you
- 4 disagree with?
 - MR. VOIGT: Objection. Anything where exactly?
 - MR. KRAMER: Anything in these documents.
- 8 MR. VOIGT: The whole document?
- 9 MR. KRAMER: Anything in these evaluations 10 that you disagree with?
 - MR. VOIGT: I think that's an overbroad question. I mean...
 - BY MR. KRAMER:
- Q. We can certainly do it page by page, if you 14 prefer. But you've got these documents, you've read 15 16 them, you've seen them.
 - Most of the things that he said I would agree upon. I would have to read over them to give a definite answer for every single statement and every single page, but most of the time he was right on.
- 21 Like the glows and grows, things I needed to work on, he definitely pointed out that I went from 22
- one end of the spectrum to the other as far as my 23 24
 - change with the students and the problems that I was

Page 123

- All -- every time? 1
- 2 Most of them. Not all of them, most of 3 them.
- 4 Q. Okay. Do you know, did he come to observe you
- 5 on times other than these eight times on which he has
- an evaluation page? 6 7
 - No. Most of the time I think it was -- I Α. think he had to have a document for every time he was
- 8 9 there, and I believe it was only the eight times. The
- only other times that weren't documented with these 10
- forms were the midterm evaluation and the final 11
- 12 evaluation.
- 13 Okay. Those were additional meetings? Q.
- 14 A.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- Now, he did meet me one time outside of 16 class to give me documents that I had to grade, and 17
- that was after I was asked not to come back to the 18
- 19 school. Another time he met with me to go over an
- item for the portfolio. 20
- 21 Would he give you a copy of these evaluations? O.
- 22 Yes. I actually own a copy of all of A. 23 these.
- Q. So you've seen all of these before?

Page 125

Page 124

- having at the beginning of the semester, in January, 1
- to how I was in May, that I definitely did change with 2
- 3 my classroom performance and my interaction with the
- 4 students. And he -- you know, he states that in these
- 5 documents.
- 6 O. Okav.
- 7 So the red flags were red flags for any A. 8 teacher, probably.
- 9 Q. And what is a red flag?
- 10 Well, I mean, just in this first part
- here, "Students were not set well for this approach. 11
- 12 There were 'how' and 'what' questions about
- note-taking." This is going back to I didn't ask them 13
- 14 deeper questions where they had to think about the
- 15 material deeper than who or what, the basic --
- Q. I see. 16

17

- The basic line. A.
- 18 Q. And red flags are just warnings, concerns?
 - Yeah, it's a concern for him.
- 20 Q. Okay. Go to the second page.
- 21 Okay.
- 22 Q. The time is 1:28, it's says "Stops to wake a
- 23 student (will squirt a student with water)." What's
- 24 that refer to?

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Page 126 1 This is an observation page, and none of 2 these were handed in to anybody until after I appealed Dr. Bray's decision, and then I handed them to 3 Dr. Bray; however, what these are, all of these 4 5 documents -- well, this page --Q. Right. 6 7

A. -- is an observation that I made of across the hall from Nicole Reinking's classroom.

8 another teacher, Mr. Carly. That was a teacher right 9 10 I had to observe middle school teachers 11 and high school teachers, write down -- and how I did 12 it, instead of filling out every little part of their 13 documentation form, because it was an optional process 14 of how you wanted to observe the class, but I took a 15 minute-by-minute telling of what the teachers did. So 16 at this point, at 1:28 in the afternoon, Mr. Carly, 17 the teacher, he stops to wake a student. And what does he do? He said he'll squirt them with a water 18 19 bottle. Q. Are you saying that this teacher, Carly,

20 21 squirted the student with the water bottle?

22 "Will squirt a student with water" if 23 they're sleeping.

24 Q. But you didn't see him do that? 1 A. (Pause.) I agree.

> Q. Okay. During your student teaching semester, Girvin was taking some notes and Reinking was taking some notes. Were you taking any notes for yourself about the classes that you were teaching?

Page 128

Page 129

Yes. These are some of the notes on this first page here. When we would meet I would write notes here or on a separate page. (Indicating.)

I didn't necessarily save the documents to this day, but I wrote a lot of notes of what Nicole expected of me or what Mr. Girvin expected of me in the classroom or what to do outside of class, when things were due.

14 Okay. Q.

15 A. So I would really keep my head on 16 straight.

17 Q. Okay. So the notes you were taking were the 18 kind of notes on page one. Is that your handwriting on the side?

20 A. Yes.

21 And how about at the bottom? O.

22 No, that's Mr. Girvin's.

23 Q. Okay. Are there any notes that you still have 24 in your possession, that you're aware of haven't been

Page 127

1 I can't remember. But "Will squirt a 2 student with water" implies that he either said that 3 he'll squirt a student with water or that he was picking up a bottle to squirt a student with water. 4 5 Q. Okay. Whose -- is this your handwriting or Girvin's handwriting on this page? 6 7 It's my handwriting. And then I wrote 8 "Barry Girvin" for my supervisor. O. 1 see.

9 10 A. I had to document somehow, while I was observing the classrooms, what they were doing and my 11 impression, just to get a better understanding of how 12

different teachers operate in the classroom. 13

14 Q. Okay. So everything on this page is your

15 handwriting --

Yeah. 16 A.

17 Q. -- is that right? Okay.

And I was rushing, because I was writing a 18 19 lot of notes minute by minute, but...

20 Q. Okay. Go to CVSD 223. Just take a look at

21 that.

22 Okay. A.

23 Q. And just let me know if there are any of his

observations that you disagree with. 24

1 turned over to your attorney?

2 They might be in my lesson plans in my 3 portfolio.

4 Q. Okay.

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A. On the --

> THE WITNESS: Is that my portfolio there? MR. VOIGT: No, those are the documents I gave you --

THE WITNESS: Okay.

10 MR. VOIGT: They're the exhibits.

THE WITNESS: Okay.

In my portfolio that I handed in for final evaluation that Mr. Girvin evaluated, I might have notes on my lesson plans.

BY MR. KRAMER:

Q. Okay. But that would be about, you know, the substance of what you were teaching, correct?

What I'm teaching, what was -- you know, after Nicole viewed the lesson plan, what I needed to change. If I needed to alter the time, add something from the previous lesson, or if there was -- it was something with the students and their behavior or if they didn't understand something, how I might change it quickly to interpret --

Page 130 Page 132 1 Q. Got it. 1 record. 2 A. -- or have better interpretation. 2 3 Q. All right. Finally, go to the last page --3 (Whereupon, a discussion was held off the sorry second-to-the-last page. This is dated 4/7/06. 4 4 record.) 5 And these seem to be Girvin's notes. If you would 5 take a look at that and let me know if you agree or 6 THE WITNESS: It was the Monday prior to 6 7 7 disagree with what's there. graduation, which was May 13th. 8 8 MR. KRAMER: That's fine. (Pause.) Yep, I agree. A. 9 9 Q. Okay. Throughout the semester was Girvin MR. VOIGT: Okay. uniformly helpful? 10 10 MR. KRAMER: I'm not fixated on the date. A. Yes. 11 You know, the date is whatever the documents say 11 12 O. Was there any time that he was not helpful? 12 it is. 13 Are you implying --13 BY MR. KRAMER: 14 Q. I'm not -- I'm just asking your sense of whether Q. Okay. Before you weren't allowed -- before the 14 15 he was supporting you, helping. 15 time when you weren't allowed back in Conestoga You mean prior to the incident? Valley, had you -- had you still been meeting with 16 16 17 Q. Before -- yes, before May 1st. 17 Nicole most mornings first period? 18 18 A. No. A. Yes. 19 Q. He was cooperative, he was fine, he was helpful? 19 Q. Okay. When did that stop? 20 In between the time that I had my midterm 20 A. Yes. 21 All right. At some point you said you perceived 21 evaluation and when I started my circle project, my 22 Nicole Reinking as becoming not helpful. Describe 22 project with the students where I took my full load 23 what you mean, what you meant by that. 23 24 There would be times in class where I 24 Q. Okay. And that was in April sometime, the

Page 131 would -- I would want reassurance I was doing something right, that went well, and that I would ask her for her opinion; or I'm having an issue

3 4

understanding a student or motivating a student. I

- 5 would ask her a question and ask for her feedback, and
- then it would -- the whole question would be 6
- 7 re-instated (sic) by Nicole, "Well, what would" --
- 8 "What would you do if this was your classroom?" And I
- 9 feel like I would be getting a question back to a
- 10 question, instead of a response that would help me.

And I was not confused with the behavior, 11 12 but the whole purpose of student teaching is to learn

13 from a teacher. And after midterm, I almost felt like

- 14 maybe she felt that this is my time to shine and she
- 15 didn't want to help me anymore. I talked to
- 16 Mr. Girvin about this issue. I said I really need
- 17 that communication with her to make sure I'm doing
- 18 things properly. I felt like there wasn't an open
- 19 communication there. And this is the only thing I
- 20 asked Girvin about.

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- 21 Q. Okay. Throughout, you know -- your last day in
- 22 Conestoga Valley was May 5th, approximately, May 6th?
- 23 Let me see here. The 8th, Monday the 8th.
- 24 MR. VOIGT: Okay. Let me just go off the

1 Circle Project?

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3

A. I believe.

Q. Was -- should Reinking have been meeting with

4 you during that first period while you were doing the

5 Circle Project, or was that not really her

6 responsibility anymore?

7 It was my impression that the cooperating 8 teacher was supposed to meet with you consistently the

9 entire time and give you feedback the entire time;

10 however, when you're teaching your full load, the

cooperating teacher doesn't have to be in the 11

12

classroom at all times.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. I mean, it's not your classroom, but you

15 have to act like it's your classroom. 16

Q. Okay.

17 A lot of the times, you know, she wasn't 18 in the classroom, and that was fine, but when I asked

19 her questions afterwards I would have liked an answer

20 from her giving me some type of explanation or

21 something I could work off of, and I didn't even get

22 that from her. So the communication wasn't there when

23 I needed it to be.

24 Q. Okay. Were you still meeting with her on a

34 (Pages 130 to 133)

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Page 134

1 regular basis before, you know, May 5th, 2006?

- 2 If it was maybe five minutes a day.
- 3 Q. All right.

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- 4 Very small amounts of time that I would 5 spend with her.
- Q. All right. And how were you spending your --6 7 strike that.

Let's move on. How about with Girvin? We have the evaluations that he did, and you met each time he did a written evaluation. Did you meet with him any other times?

11 12 Just one time about the portfolio. I

13 contacted him other times via e-mail to ask him questions concerning the portfolio. There were things 14 15

that Mr. Girvin required, or I should say Millersville University required, that Girvin had to follow through

- 16 with, things that we had to have in our portfolios. 17
- The observations were one part of that, that I had to 18
- observe people and --19
- Q. Is that the shadowing? 20
- 21 Yes. A.
- Q. Okay. 22

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23 Well, shadowing students, and then we had A. to do the observation of the teachers.

- Page 136 relationship with someone," and I didn't want that to 1 2 happen.
 - 3 "Someone" meaning? Q.

Anyone. I have a fear of upsetting 4 5 people, and I don't like doing that. So I was afraid to speak up at first, and my parents said, "You know 6 7 what, you need to speak up. If there's no 8 communication, that's not a good thing."

So I finally spoke to Mr. Girvin over the phone. I said, "I would like the communication to be better. I'm not feeling that I'm getting any feedback from her." And he said --

13 Q. Reinking?

Reinking. And Mr. Girvin said that he would speak to her. I said, "Well, are you going to mention my name?" And she -- he said, "No, I'm not going to mention your name. I will just ask her basic questions and make sure that the communication's open." End of -- end of the complaint.

20 Q. Do you know if he spoke with her about that? 21

I was under the impression that he did. I 22 don't know.

23 O. Did -- and this is sometime after the mid-evaluations? 24

Page 135

O. All right.

2 So I talked to him various times over 3 e-mail correspondence, where I asked him questions 4 concerning the portfolio.

5 Q. Okay.

6 But not technically about the classroom A. 7 itself.

8 Q. At any time did your interactions with him stop? 9

A.

10 Q. Okay.

The last interaction that I had with him 11 was the day before graduation. 12

Q. But he was, up until you graduated, he was 13 14 available to discuss with you whatever you needed to 15 discuss?

16 Α.

Q. Okay. When did you first complain to Barry 17 18 Girvin about Nicole Reinking?

19 It was only one time. It was very brief.

20 I talked to him on the phone. I was having a lot of trouble even getting the nerve to ask -- to talk to 21

22 Mr. Girvin. I actually talked to my parents prior to

it, a couple of times, saying "Should I even say

something? I'm afraid that it might hurt my 24

1 A. Correct.

> 2 Q. All right. Did her -- did the communication 3 between the two of you change at that point?

Not really.

5 O. Okay. Let's talk about the midterm evaluations. 6

Okay. A.

7 Q. It's the next one. First is Reinking.

MR. KRAMER: Snyder -- what are wer up to?

(Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-5 was marked for identification.)

BY MR. KRAMER:

14 Q. Have you seen this document before, Ms. Snyder? 15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. And approximately when did you see it? 17 On the date of the evaluation, the 20th.

Q. All right. Explain to me who was in the room. 18

19 Mr. Girvin, Nicole Reinking and myself.

20 Q. Okay. And just how -- what happened? Tell me 21 how you got into the conversation. 22

Well, it was -- we scheduled the date for the midterm evaluation. So we all sat together. You know, had a U-shape with the desks, and we -- everyone

Page 137

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Page 138 had a copy of everyone else's evaluation. So I had a copy of my own evaluation on myself, Nicole Reinking's

3 and Mr. Girvin's.

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And Mr. Girvin spoke after Nicole. Nicole spoke, went through her evaluation, the positives and negatives; Mr. Girvin went over his evaluation, the positives, the negatives; I got to speak, ask my questions, reflect on anything that they said, and that was the end of the evaluation.

10 O. Okay. Was it a pretty open conversation? 11

A. Yes.

O. Do you remember what you said about Girvin's 12 evaluation? About Girvin's evaluation, what you said 13 in response to his evaluation or -- I'm sorry, and 14 15 Reinking's evaluation. That's what I'm getting at, 16 really.

A. I'm very critical on myself and I listen to the good things, but I was really focusing on the negative things that I needed to work on. So my response was that I'll make a change in those areas.

21 Q. Okay.

22 That was my initial response to everything 23 that Nicole Reinking and Barry Girvin said --

24 Q. Okay.

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 A. -- was that I need to change, and I'm 2 going to make these changes.

3 Q. Okay. Looking just at Reinking's evaluation, 4 did you, at the time, dispute any of her grades or

5 findings or conclusions?

She was very hard on my classroom participation, or my classroom management. And since she was teaching for five years, I took what she said wholeheartedly into consideration, that maybe I'm not as good as I thought I was and I have a lot to learn, and I need to make these changes.

12 Q. Okay.

13

14 Q. And did you tell them that, or that was you were 15

just thinking that at that time?

That was my thinking. I did tell them 16 17 that I would change the problems; however, I was 18 thinking inside my head, you know, Mr. Girvin was

19 teaching for 20-plus years, Nicole's been in the

20 classroom for five years, I need to listen to what

21 they say if I'm going to be a good teacher.

22 Q. Okay. Go next to the next document, which is

23 Girvin's midterm evaluation. Call this Snyder-6.

Take a look at that, please.

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2 (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-6 was marked for identification.) 3

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5 BY MR. KRAMER:

6 O. He gave you this at the March 20th meeting?

A. Yes.

8 Q. And I really want to know the same questions.

9 He -- you know, he has comments, some good, some bad.

Correct.

11 Q. Did you essentially agree with him and his

comments on these pages? 12

> A. Yes.

Q. Okay. Did you dispute anything with him?

A few of the things that I needed to hand 15 16 in for my portfolio were not completed yet, and I did 17 mention to Mr. Girvin that I felt that I was kind of 18 thrown into the teaching instead of given the time at

19 the beginning of the semester to get the items done

20 for my portfolio. We had discussed and agreed that

21 while Nicole Reinking was teaching the research paper,

22 at that point is when I would take the time to step

23 back and get those things completed.

24 Q. Okay.

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Page 140

You know, "Shadowing," question -- you 1 know, question mark. "Student with exceptional 2

3 needs?" That's what he's questioning, where are these

4 things, why aren't they done. So I did make it a

5 point to say, hey, I need time to do these things. I 6

cannot be in the classroom teaching and then complete

7 these things with students or with teachers at the

8 same time.

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9 Q. Okay. So the concerns he raised were 10 legitimate, you felt you needed more time?

Yes.

12 Q. Okay. Let's go on to the next, which we're 13 going to call Snyder-7. This is the Pennsylvania

14 Statewide Evaluation Form for Student Professional

15 Knowledge and Practice, affectionately known as the

PDE-430. 16

> Α. Yes.

Q. Again, the same questions, did you dispute 18 19 anything that he was saying, did you discuss it, or have we already -- we've already gone through this? 20

Basically this is the same as the final --22 I mean the midterm evaluation, except it's processed differently. I had an unsatisfactory in my classroom environment, which is the area that I needed to work

Page 142 on the most. Everything else I had a satisfactory rating or a superior rating. It made sense to me that

2 3 that was the area I needed to work on, because that's 4 where I was having the most problems. So I totally agreed with them that I would have to change that 5 area.

6 7

> (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-7 was marked for identification.)

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BY MR. KRAMER:

Q. Do you know how the midterm PDE-430 is used? 12 13

I know that it is not handed in for certification purposes. It is basically used to tailor what you're doing. They don't hand this in to

the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the final 16 evaluation is the only thing handed to the

17 Pennsylvania Department of Education; however, this 18

19 can be used to determine other circumstances.

For example, I know that Dr. Bray had

21 looked at this for my appeal meeting. She did look at

22 this document and she saw that I had an unsatisfactory

23 in the one area. It can be used for various things.

But as a document of resource, it's not a

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had all superiors or all exemplaries.

2 MR. VOIGT: Are you talking about the 3 midterm evaluation?

MR. KRAMER: Yeah, that's -- we're talking about just the midterm.

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THE WITNESS: All --

7 BY MR. KRAMER:

Q. Okay. But you're also saying the final

9 evaluation as well?

A. All evaluations, yes.

O. Okay. But how -- if all the evaluations, the midterm and the final evaluations, how are -- how do they affect whether you get a job or not, based on what you understand?

The midterm not as much as the final A. evaluation. The final evaluation is the key. If you have an unsatisfactory or all satisfactory ratings, as opposed to superior ratings, it shows that you don't grasp the concepts as much as if you had -- let me rephrase that. If you have all satisfactory ratings, you grasp the concept less or have worse performance than if you have all exemplary or superior ratings.

23 Q. I see.

> A. So if -- a school district would say this

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1 documentation for processing purposes.

2 O. Okay. For processing your certification?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Okay. The midterm evaluations, the one by

5 Girvin, the one by Reinking and the other one by Girvin, the PDE-430 --6

7

A. Correct.

8 Q. -- are they used at all in trying to find a job?

10 Q. Okay. Do you know if school districts require any of these three midterm evaluations to be submitted 11 12 with your job application or at some point when you're

looking for a job? 13

> A. I do not know that.

Q. Okay. 15

I know that if you have an -- I was informed of this by Mr. Girvin, if you do have an unsatisfactory in an area, that will make a profound impact whether you get a job or not. That was -- he

20 informed me of that.

21 O. Okay.

22 A. That if you do have an unsatisfactory in an area or all satisfactories, you're gonna have less of a chance of getting a job, as compared to if you 24

teacher has all satisfactory ratings, but this teacher 1

has all exemplary ratings, we're gonna go based upon 2

3 the better ratings. Q. And how --

> A. That's the impression that we were given.

Q. And how do the school districts get a hold of these documents, these midterm and final evaluations?

A. I don't know.

Q. Okay. You referred a couple of times to your portfolio. What is that?

Portfolio is a document, well, a whole bunch of documents that were placed together, for Girvin to evaluate; shadowing of students, we had requirements where we had to -- I had to interview Nicole Reinking about certain issues, and then I had to write my own responses and kind of compare and contrast them, the observations of the other teachers, what what feel I did get, what --

19 Q. Okay.

20 -- was my grasp of those situations, in 21 addition to my circle project. That is the core, the 22 main part of it. 23

Not only my lesson plans, but the project itself, which basically it was, I don't know if you've

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ever seen a lesson plan, but it's all the lesson plans 1 2 together --

Q. For the whole semester? 3

> A. -- for the whole semester, in addition to your original template, which includes the Pennsylvania Department of Education, their rules and standards, how you're including them in the lesson plans, what you're doing with the students and for the

8 9 students within this whole semester or this whole

10 lesson and unit --

11 Q. Okay.

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12 -- to enrich them. And you have to go 13 through -- it's basically a 20-page paper before the 14 lesson plans.

Q. So your portfolio, then, refers really to all 15 the documents which reflect your work during your 16 17 student teaching semester, it sounds like.

> During my full load. A.

Yes. 19 Q.

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discussion.

A. Yes, during my full load, yes.

21 Q. Okay.

22 Not prior to. A.

23 Right, but just -- okay. I understand. O.

Let's go to the next document, Snyder-8.

they needed to be. 1

> 2 Q. Right. Were you surprised by what they wrote 3 and by what they said?

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In some areas I did as far as -- I'd have to find the page.

Q. Okay.

I know that both of them gave me an N in one of the areas of knowledge, and I was taken back by that, because I had no prior experience with British 10 literature. This was my first time and I felt that even though I -- you know, I was trying my hardest and 12 that I didn't have a clear knowledge of it, but that's only because I had no experience with it before. If I was teaching American literature, that would have been different, because I -- all of my classes or most of my workload was concerning American literature.

However, I took to heart what they said, I put my head in the books a little bit more, deeper than I already was, and tried my -- tried my best the second half.

21 Q. Okay.

22 That's all I could do. A.

MR. KRAMER: That's 8.

MR. VOIGT: Off the record a second.

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This was your evaluation, your self-evaluation.

Q. Did you and Mr. Girvin and Ms. Reinking discuss your self-evaluation at this time?

Yes. I rated myself, I don't want to say highly, but higher than they did in certain areas, and that was a concern of them. I had in my mind that even though I was having these problems, that every teacher has problems and there are things that I need to work through.

And after reading my documents and comparing it to their ratings, they kind of opened my eyes a little bit more as an epiphany for me, and I noticed, you know, hey, there are areas that I need to work on a little bit more and take a little bit more 16 seriously as far as classroom management is concerned. And that was the main communication that we had 17 concerning my document, that, you know, "We have an N here and you have a G. There's something wrong. Do you notice the difference about what we're saying, compared to what you're saying?" And that was the

Were their evaluations surprising to you?

No. They were critical, which I think

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2 (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-8 was marked 3 for identification.) 4

(Whereupon, a lunch recess was taken.)

7 BY MR. KRAMER:

We're back, Ms. Snyder. O.

Yes.

Q. Are you aware if, during the period between February 1st to, say, your mid-evaluation, Reinking was communicating to Girvin her observations of your student teaching performance?

Individually? I'm not aware of that. Q. Okay. I mean, you don't have any knowledge whether she was telling him what was going on in the classroom or not? You don't know?

I have no idea, no. I know that she talked with -- to him with me in the room. But other than that, I have no idea.

Q. Okay. So the times that he would come in to do his observation, the next day or the day after the three of you would talk about your student teaching?

A. Correct.

38 (Pages 146 to 149)

Q. Okay. You said that after the mid-evaluation

- 2 the communication between you and Reinking decreased.
- 3 Did you ever tell her that was your observation?
- 4 A. No. That's why I went to Girvin. I
- 5 didn't want to upset her, and I didn't know if that
- 6 was in my place to say something to her like that,
- 7 since she was my cooperating teacher, which means we
- 8 were supposed to be working together.
- 9 Q. Right.
- 10 A. However, as far as something like that's
- 11 concerned, I felt I needed to go to my supervisor
- 12 about it.

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- 13 Q. Okay. Now, after the midterm evaluation,
- 14 explain to me generally if your duties changed, from
- 15 before the mid-evaluation, as a student teacher.
- 16 A. They increased -- or they did change. My
- 17 class amounts increased. I went from two classes to
- 8 three classes, and I taught first, second and third
- 19 block. There was a teacher, Mr. Hentzel, that was
- 20 across the hall from us, that asked Nicole, who in
- 21 turn asked me, if I would pick up his one class, his
- 22 morning class first period, so I could go -- so he
- 23 could go do some work with the guidance department.
- 24 Q. And what grade was that?

Page 150 1 A. No. No.

- 2 Q. Okay. So you would have the class to yourself
- 3 as the teacher?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Okay. And what unit were you teaching the kids

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- 6 in Mr. Hentzel's class?
- 7 A. British literature.
- 8 Q. Was it -- go ahead.
- 9 A. I was going to add, after the situation
- 10 occurred, Mrs. Reinking did have to teach those first
- 11 block students, Mr. Hentzel's class.
- 12 Q. And "situation" meaning?
- 13 A. Removal from the school.
- 14 Q. Okay.

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- A. Yeah.
- 16 Q. So in other words, after --
- 17 A. May.
- 18 Q. -- May 8th --
- 19 A. Yeah.
- 20 Q. -- Reinking then had to teach Hentzel's first
- 21 block class?
- A. Correct.
- 23 Q. Okay. From mid-evaluation through the end of
- 24 your time at Conestoga Valley, you would meet with

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- 1 A. That was 12th grade as well. It was the
- 2 same class as third block, the traditional British
- 3 literature; however, it was a first block class from a
- 4 different teacher. So I had two blocks of traditional
- 5 British literature on the other sides of the second
- 6 block class, which was the non-traditional British
- 7 literature.
- 8 Q. Mr. Hentzel was the teacher of that class?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Did he have any responsibility for interacting
- 11 with you, teaching you, supervising you?
- 12 A. No. He gave me a class -- he gave me a 13 class roster.
- 14 Q. Okay. Did Mrs. Reinking ever come and observe
- 15 you in that class?
- 16 A. She was there in the morning. So
- 17 sometimes she was in the classroom, but not always.
- 18 It wasn't her responsibility to observe me. I mean,
- 19 it was her responsibility to observe me, but not
- 20 necessarily to observe each individual class. Just in
- 21 general.
- 22 Q. Okay. Other than yourself, in teaching
- 23 Mr. Hentzel's class, were there any other grownups,
- 24 typically?

- 1 Reinking, I think you said, not as frequently as
- 2 before?
- 3 A. Yeah, periodically. Maybe five minutes a
- day. If there was an issue, maybe 15 minutes. So it
 decreased at least half of the amount of time.
- 6 Q. But you -- there was no regularly scheduled
- 7 meeting time --
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. -- between the two of you?
- 10 A. No
- 11 O. Okay. All right. I take it, then, you had
- 12 literally full responsibility for Mr. Hentzel's class,
- 13 to teach just Hentzel's class just at that point,
- 14 right?
- 15 A. And second and third block.
- 16 Q. Okay. And that was -- in addition, you had full
- 17 responsibility for blocks 1, 2 and 3?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Okay. Blocks 1 and 3 were the British
- 20 literature and block -- with the --
- A. Traditional.
- 22 O. -- traditional students, and block 2 with the
- 23 non-traditional students?
- 24 A. Correct.

- O. Was the curriculum in Hentzel's class the same 1
- 2 as in the block 3 class?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And generally what period of time were you --
- what were you teaching substantively? Were you 5
- 6 teaching them poetry, writing? What were you teaching
- 7 them?
- 8 A. It started as a poetry unit, it worked
- 9 into different periods of time of British literature
- up until modern day literature. But a majority of the 10
- work was surrounded around Shakespeare, Chaucer, that 11 12 area.
- 13 Q. You were, then -- for those classes, then, you
- were responsible for taking -- what were you 14
- responsible for in terms of curriculum, teaching? 15
- 16 Break it down for me.
- Okay. I was in charge of, or responsible, 17
- 18 for student welfare, first and foremost, and their
- 19 learning. So I had to make sure I maintained a safe
- 20 learning environment for the students, one in which
- 21 they were being challenged, but not challenged too
- much, that they were grasping the material, and 1 had 22
- 23 to find that out through various assessments.
 - And they were my main responsibility. I

- May 8th on your teaching? 1
 - 2 A. Somewhat, but not a lot.
 - 3 Q. Okay.
 - 4 And the information that she did give me,

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- 5 critiques of my lesson plans or giving me a better
- 6 understanding of the subject matter if I didn't
- 7 understand one part over another, basically they were
- 8 her only concerns; making sure that I got the students
- 9 to understand the subject matter and that -- so when
- finals came, that they didn't bomb the finals. 10
- Q. During that period of time were you getting 11
- 12 feedback from Barry Girvin?
 - A. Yes.
- 14 Q. All right. And how often would you and he
- 15 discuss --

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- 16 A. Whenever he came in to observe.
- 17 O. Okay.
- 18 A. And he gave me feedback after he read my 19 lesson plans for the week.
- 20 Q. How regular was the feedback from Barry Girvin?
 - Weekly or twice a week.
- 22 Was Girvin generally on point in his criticisms?
 - Yes, for the most part, because most of
- his criticisms had to do with classroom environment 24

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- mean, those two things, you know, entail a lot; 1
- maintaining a safe classroom and making sure they 2
- understand the work. 3
- 4 Q. Okay. In blocks 2 and 3, Reinking's students,
- 5 when you were teaching Reinking's students in blocks 2
- 6 and 3 was she in the room? Reinking, was she in the
- 7 room?

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- Not all of the time. A.
- 9 O. Most of the time?
- 10 A quarter to half the time maybe.
- Q. Okay. Was Hentzel ever in the room when you 11
- 12 were teaching his classes?
- 13 No. Mainly because Reinking and I agreed
- 14 to take his class over, so he didn't have the
- 15 responsibility of being there.
- Q. Okay. All right. 16
- 17 I do want to add, the students that I
- 18 helped with the writing research project, that was
- 19 actually in semester three, not semester four.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. I didn't want to confuse you with that.
- 22 Q. All right. Okay. I think I got that.
- 23 How were -- were you getting feedback from
- 24 Reinking from the mid-evaluation point through, say,

- 1 prior to midterm placement, and then as they came
- 2 toward the end of the semester he gave me less and
- 3 less and less criticism and there were more and more 4 and more positive critiques.
- 5 Q. Okay. But I'm now talking about the time from 6
 - the midterm evaluation through May 8th.
 - Yeah, midterm evaluation to May 8th he continued on -- like I said, he had less grows and
- 9 more glows. Because they call it glows and grows. 10 Q. Okay. Reinking's observations during that same
- 11 period, they were -- was she generally on point? Did 12 you agree with what -- her observations on your
- 13 performance?
 - She didn't give me much feedback. See, that was the -- that's the problem right there, there wasn't enough feedback for me to agree or disagree
- 17 with her.
- 18 Okay. Did you go to anybody other than your parents and to Girvin and complain about what you 19
- 20 perceived as Reinking's -- the less feedback that
- 21 Reinking was giving you?
 - No.
- 23 Okay. Let's talk about the final evaluations.
- 24 A. Okay.

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Q. First we'll do Reinking's evaluation. Have you 1 2 seen this before?

3 Α. Yes.

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4 And when did you see it? Q.

The date of the final evaluation, on the 11th.

7 Q. Okay. On the 11th did you, Reinking and Girvin 8 all meet to discuss the final evaluations?

9 Well, I was tailored into the school and I 10 had to sit in that conference room where I first met

Nicole, the side teacher room, and -- Buffington 11

12 actually brought me back to that room, and I was

13 sitting there. I had to wait until all my students

left. And then I originally met with Buffington, 14

15 Girvin and Reinking.

16 Q. Okay. So the meeting that you referred to in

17 your Complaint in which Buffington criticized you,

18 that was the same meeting at which --

The final --19 A.

20 Q. -- at which the final -- that's okay -- at which

21 the final evaluations were discussed?

22 Yes. A.

23 Okay. Q.

24 Buffington left after she talked to me, A.

Yes, fourth period. 1 A.

> 2 Q. Okay.

3 A. They escorted me down to the room, it was 4 Buffington, Girvin, Reinking, and then I was sitting across from all of them. And Buffington continued to 5 6 say that I --

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Q. Tell me what she said. Sorry. To the best of your recollection, what did Buffington say?

"Did you ever see this?" And then she shows me the picture and the caption. And I said, "Yes." And she continued to say how that was unprofessional, that I was incompetent as a teacher, because I didn't display certain knowledge that an English teacher should display.

After that, she said that she felt my apology letter was not sincere. At that point I got really upset, and I said to her "I wrote this apology letter when I was bawling my eyes out." I said, "I've been crying for the past three days. I haven't been able to spend any time with my children, eat or sleep." I said, "If that's not sincere, I don't know what is." And she said, "I'm sorry."

And then she said that she felt I needed more education, and I said I was planning on

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and then Girvin and Reinking and myself met like we 1 always did. 2

Q. Okay. 3

4 The three of us together. A.

5 Q. Got it. Well, tell me about that meeting. You 6 said Girvin escorted you? Who escorted you to the 7 room?

8 I just said Buffington, but it was Girvin. 9 He escorted me down to the side room. They waited

until the students left, and they actually had the 10

students go the opposite way from where I was sitting, 11 so they wouldn't see me.

12

Q. Who told you that? 13

> I was told that. A.

15 Q. Who told you?

So -- Girvin. 16 A.

17 O. Okay.

14

18 So the students couldn't have any

19 interaction with me. Because they didn't see me that

20 whole week, so I'm under the impression they felt that

21 the students would try to talk to me and ask me why I

22 haven't been there if they saw me.

23 After the classroom left --

24 Q. I'm sorry, is this at the end of the day?

continuing my education anyways, and she said she did 1

2 not know that. And she got up after that and left the

3 classroom.

4 Q. While she was talking -- while Buffington was

5 talking, did Girvin and Reinking say anything? 6

A.

7 Q. The -- you say that Buffington showed you a

8 document. Is this the document that she showed you?

9 (Indicating.)

10 Α. She did not show me the document with the 11 -- with the blog.

12 Q. With the text?

This is something totally different.

14 These are two different documents that are put

together. (Indicating.)

The picture -- the picture and the

17 caption, which was "Drunken pirate," was one document.

18 This other caption from Thursday, May 4th, down at the

19 bottom here, was an actual blog that I wrote on my

20 website. (Indicating.)

21 Q. I see.

22 A. So that was a separate document. She

23 showed me the picture with the caption.

Q. Okay. So let's --

- 1 Which it was that picture, but there was a 2 caption underneath.
- 3 Q. Okay. Is this the picture that she showed you? 4 (Indicating.)
 - A. No. That picture. (Indicating.)
- O. Okay. So let's -- let's mark that, then. 6
 - Except there was a caption underneath.
- Underneath all the pictures there are captions 8
- 9 underneath the pictures.
- Q. Is that a blog? 10
- No. 11 A.

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- 12 Q. Okay. Sorry.
- The text, that "Thursday" to the bottom of 13
- 14 the page, that's a blog.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- It's basically a diary entry. 16 A.
- 17 All right. So let me get this straight. First,
- let's mark this as Snyder -- what are we up to -- 10. 18
- Buffington showed you the picture. And 19 it's actually in front of you if you want to look at 20
- 21 it. It's after the evaluations.
- 22 Buffington showed you, in that May 11th
- meeting, this picture that's on Snyder-10, correct? 23
- 24 Correct. A.

- Page 164 1 I'm sorry. I was aware that they viewed
- 2 that blog and that the blog and the picture were the 3 problem, but she just showed me the picture.
- 4 Q. Okay. And when you refer to "the blog," you're 5 referring to this text on Snyder-10?
- 6 Yes. A.
- 7 O. Okav.

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- Because it was misinterpreted.
- 9 Q. All right. How do you know that they viewed 10 this blog, or text, that's on Snyder-10?
 - After my final evaluation Nicole Reinking said to me "I don't care what you say. I know you're lying to me, that that text was about me." I told her
- 14 the entire time, including up until this day, that
- this text has nothing to do with Nicole, and she said 15
- she didn't believe me. I know that's just one of the 16
- 17 ways that they saw the text, but I was informed by
- Mr. Girvin as well that they viewed the blog text. 18
- Q. And "the blog text" meaning this text on 19
- 20 Snyder-10?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. All right. Do you know if -- how do you know
- 23 that Girvin viewed the text on Snyder-10? 24
 - I don't know how he viewed it. I know Α.

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- Q. All right. Underneath it it had the caption 1 "Drunken pirate"?
- 2 3 Right.
- 4 Q. Right. Was there anything else on the page that
- Buffington showed you at that meeting? 5
- 6
- 7 Q. All right. Okay. Then what other -- I don't
- 8 know -- and you'll excuse me, I'm not familiar with
- MySpace or blogs, so bear with me. 9
- Buffington, did Buffington show you any 10 other postings from your website in that meeting? 11
 - MR. VOIGT: Other than the blog?
- MR. KRAMER: Well, that's what I want to 13
- 14 -- she showed -- Buffington showed her this 15 picture.
- 16
 - THE WITNESS: Yes.
- BY MR. KRAMER: 17
- 18 Q. Did Buffington show you any text at that
- 19 meeting?

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- 20 A. Other than the caption underneath the
- 21 picture, no.
- 22 Q. Okay. Buff --
- 23 I was --A.
- 24 Q. Okay.

that he did view it. 1

- 2 Q. Well, how do you know that? How do you know
- 3 that he had seen this text?
- 4 He said that he knows -- he understood 5 what was in question, that it was the picture with the
- 6 caption and the blog.
- 7 O. Okay. And --8
 - It was my understanding that if he knew what was in question, that he viewed it himself.
- 10 Q. But you don't know that he ever actually saw the 11 text on Snyder-10?
 - I don't know if he saw the text on
 - Snyder-10, but I know that he viewed the picture.
- 14 Q. The picture on Snyder-10? 15
 - Right, because it was shown to everybody.
- Q. Okay. At the meeting on May 11th with 16
- 17 Buffington, Girvin, you, and Reinking. Okay. 18
 - This picture, do you know if this picture plays in this litigation at all? (Indicating.)
- 20 MR. VOIGT: Do you want to mark that 21 picture?
- 22 MR. KRAMER: Well, because if it doesn't 23 -- I mean, we can. Call this Snyder-11.
 - THE WITNESS: That picture was one of the

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- 1 other pictures on the website. And when the
- 2 media attention hit, that's the picture that was
- 3 used.
- 4 BY MR. KRAMER:
- 5 O. Okay. But as far as you know, the folks at
- Millersville and Conestoga Valley never looked at this 6
- 7 picture, Snyder-11?
- 8 No, they used that picture. (Indicating.)
- 9 Q. The one in Snyder-10?
- 10 A.
- O. All right. How do you know that Buffington saw 11
- 12 the text on Snyder-10?
- 13 It was made aware -- made aware to me by
- 14 Girvin that they viewed not only the text, but the
- 15 picture.
- Q. Okay. Well, I'm just talking about the text 16
- now. What did Girvin say to you? 17
- 18 I asked him what is -- why is my
- 19 professionalism in question, and at first he couldn't
- 20 give me any answers.
- 21 O. And when did you --
- 22 That was on Monday.
- 23 Q. On the telephone?
- Yes. I called him right after I talked to 24

- what the text said.
 - 2 Q. Okay. And she told you that at the May 11th
 - 3 meeting?
 - 4 A. Yes.
 - Q. Why do you know -- why do you believe that Jane

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- 6 Bray saw this text?
- 7 I don't believe Jane Bray saw this text
- 8 until my -- I figured she had to have seen the text,
- 9 because she essentially decided whether I would get my
- 10 degree, or she signed the paperwork whether I would
- get my degree or not. Dr. Wenrich gave me the 11
- 12 impression that she was in charge --
- 13 Q. "She" meaning?
- 14 Wenrich was in charge of the meetings,
- 15 because Dr. Bray was ill, but that the ultimate
- 16 decision would come from Dr. Bray.
- 17 O. I see.
- 18 A. So for her to make that type of decision
- 19 whether to take someone's degree away or not, they
- 20 would have to see all of the context on everything
- 21 that's in question.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 A. And I know that Buffington had forwarded
- this to Millersville.

- O. Had forwarded this, "this" meaning what? 1
 - Snyder-10. A.
 - 3 Q. 10, the photograph and the text Buffington
 - forwarded to Millersville? 4
 - 5 I believe so. A.
 - 6 O. Okay.
 - 7 I don't know if it was coupled together as
 - 8 it is on this page, but I know that both things were
 - 9 sent to Millersville.
 - 10 Q. How do you know that?
 - 11 Because I was confronted about it on, not
 - 12 only in the meeting on the 11th, but the meeting on
 - 13 the 12th at Millersville.
 - 14 Q. Okay. And the meeting on the 12th was with
 - 15 whom?
 - 16 Wenrich and Girvin. A.
 - 17 Q. All right. But my question is, I may be
 - 18 skipping a step here, but how -- you don't know, then,
 - or do you know, that Dr. Bray actually viewed this
 - 20 text on Snyder-10 at any time?

21 MR. VOIGT: Objection. She asked that --

22 she answered that a few minutes ago.

> MR. KRAMER: Well, she didn't quite give me a direct answer.

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Mrs. Buffington. 1

- 2 Q. Okay.
- 3
- On Tuesday he gave me more information,
- 4 and he said that the text and the picture is in
- 5 question. That picture and that text were given to
- 6 Mrs. Buffington by Nicole Reinking.
- 7 Q. How do you know that?
- 8 I was told that. That's what I was told
- 9 in that conversation.
- 10 Q. And Girvin told you that?
- Yes. At that time I said, "Is it my" --11
- "Is it in my best interest to get rid of my MySpace 12
- account?" And he said, "Yes, it looks that way." 13
- 14 Q. All right.
- 15 And so I got rid of my account. A.
- 16 Q. When did you open the account?
- 17 Months before student teaching. I
- actually believe I had the account while I was in Sue 18
- 19 Fetterolf's classroom and Neil Weidman's classroom.
- Okay. You may have answered this, how do you 20 21 know that Reinking viewed the text on Snyder-10?
- 22 A. She told me she did.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 And she told me that she didn't believe A.

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1 BY MR. KRAMER:

- 2 Q. Do you know that Bray actually viewed this text?
- 3 Not before the appeal meeting. I don't
- 4 know if she did or she did not.
- 5 Q. Okay. How about Dr. Wenrich, do you know if she
- 6 ever viewed this text?
- 7 It was -- it was forwarded to her from CV,
- 8 so she would have had to have read it, unless she just
- 9 took the paper and put it to the side after it came
- out of the fax machine. 10
- 11 O. Well, who -- was it e-mailed or faxed?
- Well, this says "Fax" at the top. 12 A.
- 13 O. Okay.
- And that might have been at a later date, 14
- but that's why I said "Fax." 15
- 16 Q. Okay. Well, it's dated 5/9.
- A. Yeah. 17
- Q. But my question really is, somebody faxed this 18
- 19 document, you're saying, to Millersville?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. Do you know who did -- do you know who faxed the
- 22 document to Millersville, Snyder-10?
- 23 Like I said, I don't know if it was in its
- 24 format as Snyder-10. It could have been the picture

Page 172 Page 170 O. Okay. And did you show it to Bray and Wenrich? 1

- Yeah, they had a copy of it. They're the 2 ones that showed it to me.
- 3
- O. Okay. In the same format? 4 5
 - A. Correct.
- 6 O. Okav. How about --
 - I didn't bring it to them, they brought it
- 8 -- they -- Dr. Bray took the paper and went like this
- 9 and showed me it. Like that. So they had it in their
- 10 possession before that. (Indicating.)
- 11 Q. Okay. How about Schneller, you had a meeting
- 12 with her one of those days?
- 13 The 12th, on Friday the 12th, before A.
- 14 graduation.
- Q. Okay. Did she have with her a copy, that you 15
- saw, of the picture? 16
- 17 A. Not a copy that I saw.
- Q. Did she have with you a copy of -- did she have 18
- 19 with her a copy of the text?
 - Not that I saw. A.
- 21 Q. So you -- do you know if Schneller ever saw
- 22 either the text or the picture --
 - I don't know. A.
- 24 Q. -- from Snyder-10? Okay.

Page 171

- 1 and the caption, and then the blog separate, it could
- be two different documents; however, that information 2
- 3 was sent by Buffington to Millersville.
- Q. All right. At Millersville do you have any 4
- 5 direct knowledge -- strike that.
 - Do you have any direct knowledge of which of the defendants at Millersville actually saw the
- 8 picture, the top of Snyder-10?
- 9 I know that they all have viewed this
- 10 after the appeal meeting. Before that, I'm not sure
- exactly who viewed it. 11
- 12 Q. Okay.

6

7

- 13 But I know after the meeting they all
- viewed it, because I brought it to the appeal meeting 14
- 15 and showed them.
- Q. Okay. And which appeal meeting? 16
- The first one after graduation. 17
- 18 The one with Bray and Wenrich? O.
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. Okay. To that appeal meeting did you also bring
- 21 this text?
- Yes, it was in this... (Indicating.) 22 A.
- 23 O. It was in this format?
- Yes. 24 A.

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- 1 MR. VOIGT: Wait until the question's
 - done.
- 3 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.
- 4 BY MR. KRAMER:
- 5 O. Okay. Let's go back and finish with Snyder-9.
- This is Reinking's evaluation. This is May 11th. 6
- 7 After Buffington leaves the room --
- 8 Correct.
- 9 Q. -- it's -- remaining in the room are you and
- 10 Girvin and Reinking. Tell me what happens.
- Basically like we did with the midterm 11
- 12 evaluation. Reinking went first, she went over her
- 13 ratings; Girvin went next, went over his ratings.
- 14 Girvin said he was surprised and dismayed that this
- 15 would happen, because he saw such a turnaround for me
- 16 from midterm, and this shocked him. And then, as I
- 17 said before. Nicole said that she did not believe that
- 18 I was being truthful and honest when I said that that
- 19 blog text was not about her.
- 20 Q. Did she seem mostly -- did Reinking seem mostly
- angry that she thought you were criticizing her? 21
 - She seemed angry overall. A.
- 23 Q. Okay. Did -- but did she indicate she was
- 24 pissed off, taking it personally, that you were

Page 174 Well, as of Thursday there was no attacking her somehow? 1 1 2 determining -- or final determination whether I was 2 I think so. A. 3 going to receive any degree. And that's what I was 3 Okay. O. 4 That's only my personal opinion. told from the beginning of the week, that I might not 4 5 receive any degree, that I might receive my Bachelor's 5 No, that's -- I'm trying to get a sense of the 6 of Secondary Education, but it wasn't guaranteed. I 6 dynamic here. 7 felt at that point that if I mentioned anything or 7 Did you -- did they -- did Reinking read 8 said anything that was against them, that I wouldn't 8 the document to you, did she discuss all of it, did 9 get a degree at all. 9 she choose a certain number of points? How did she 10 Q. Okay. With respect to the contents of 10 present it to you? Reinking's evaluation, did you agree with her 11 Normally, same as midterm evaluation in 11 this one, number 1, unsatisfactory, number 2 -- and we 12 observations? 12 13 A. Not with the professionalism and not with 13 would go through it that way. 14 Right. 14 the preparation or the knowledge. Obviously I had the Q. knowledge. If I didn't, I wouldn't have taught as far And then she would read through what she 15 15 A. said for the evidence. And Girvin would do the same as I did and to as many students as I did for that 16 16 17 whole period of time. I felt personally that if I was 17 thing. Was there a dis -- with respect to Reinking's 18 incompetent and I did not have that knowledge, why was 18 Q. I in the classroom for that long teaching the same 19 evaluation, after she read the document to you, it 19 sounds like, was there a discussion of the contents of students? Why wasn't I taken out before or even 20 20 21 confronted before to say, hey, you still don't have 21 the document? 22 the knowledge, we can't have you teach? 22 No. A. Was there a discussion of the contents of 23 I was looking for answers, and I had a lot 23 O. 24 Girvin's evaluation? 24 of things going through my head during that final arguments if I would int.

 	Page 175		Page
1	A. Well, Girvin went into the remainder of	1	evaluation, but they were my main arguments if I wou
2	his discussion right after his evaluation, that he	2	have made any arguments at that point.
3	wasn't expecting what happened to happen, because I	3	Q. Okay. But you didn't?
4	made the turnaround from the midterm semester or	4	A. I didn't.
5	the midterm evaluation, I apologize. And then Nicole	5	Q. Okay.
6	added what she wanted to add, and I didn't say	6	A. At least not to Nicole.
7	anything.	7	Q. Did you make comments to somebody else?
8	Q. Okay. What did Nicole say?	8	A. I made comments or gave an argument for
9	A. That she did not believe that I was being	9	myself to Girvin in an e-mail that I wrote Tuesday
10	honest that that blog text was not about her.	10	prior to when we spoke.
11	Q. Okay. Was there any more discussion about	11	Q. To Girvin?
12	Reinking's evaluation at that meeting?	12	A. Yes.
13	A. No.	13	Q. Okay. Well, let's first get this marked as 9,
14	Q. Okay. Did she give you a copy?	14	so we don't lose it.
15	A. Yes.	15	
16	Q. All right. Did you respond to her observations	16	(Whereupon, Exhibits Snyder-9, 10 and 11
17	in her evaluation at that time?	17	were marked for identification.)
18	A. Can you repeat it?	18	
19	Q. Did you respond I mean, after Reinking read	19	MR. KRAMER: Go to the next document,
20	her evaluation to you, did you respond?	20	Girvin's Millersville student teaching
21	A. No.	21	evaluation. This is 12.
22	Q. Okay.	22	
23	A. I was too afraid to.	23	(Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-12 was marked
24	Q. Why were you afraid?	24	for identification.)
	•	l	•

45 (Pages 174 to 177)

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Page 178 Page 180 MR. VOIGT: Barry, if I could just ask a 1 1 2 2 BY MR. KRAMER: question. Stacy, when you said Girvin told you he 3 Q. So you said Girvin read this document to you at 4 didn't expect this, what do you understand he the May 11th meeting? 4 was talking about, "this"? 5 This he read to me on the 12th, with 5 THE WITNESS: All the talk about Dr. Wenrich and myself. This final document was 6 6 7 unprofessionalism. That's what I'm taking it --7 composed after the final evaluation. 8 8 MR. VOIGT: I think you're on a different that's what I took it for. 9 MR. KRAMER: Okay. 9 document. 10 BY MR. KRAMER: 10 BY MR. KRAMER: 11 Q. So -- and did you see Reinking ever again after Q. Yeah, we're talking about this one. 11 12 that meeting? 12 (Indicating.) 13 Oh, did they stick together? I don't have 13 A. One time I had to come in and pick up my A. 14 14 desk, because I couldn't transport it in my car. 1 that. came back for my desk. My students threw a party for Q. This is --15 15 me, in which I wasn't there, and they gave me a bear Oh, they're switched. I'm sorry. 16 16 and a card as a goodbye, and I picked those items up 17 17 This one, this is Girvin's -while I picked up my desk. Got it now. Sorry. 18 18 Q. How come you didn't use a Conestoga Valley desk? Q. Not the PDE form, the other one. 19 19 20 You just brought your own desk? 20 Okay. Correct. Sorry. 21 A. They didn't have one available for me to So let's go back. Snyder-12 is Girvin's 21 22 fit in the classroom. 22 Millersville evaluation. Did he read this to you at the May 11th meeting? 23 Q. Okay. All right. That's 12. 23 24 Girvin's other evaluation, the PDE form --24 The Conestoga Valley evaluation?

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and all that stuff.

A.

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    11th, Thursday the 11th.
     Q. That was in the meeting along with Reinking?
4
5
              Yes.
        A.
    Q. Okay. After he read this document, did you
6
7
    respond to him in any way?
8
        A.
             No. For the same reasons as I said for
9
    Reinking.
10
    Q. All right. And what happened in the meeting
    after he read the document?
11
              Well, what I just said, that he said that
12
13
    he was taken back, that he didn't expect this, that I
14
    made a turnaround from the middle of the semester.
    Nicole had said what she had said about not believing
15
    me. Nicole left the classroom, and Girvin stayed with
    me afterwards to help me clean up my classroom. And I
17
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talked to him again about Nicole and, you know, my

and that I felt that no other student teachers should

happen. And he said, "This isn't the time to talk

be placed with Nicole again if this is what's going to

concerns at midterm placement, how they didn't change

Yes, he read that. He read that on the

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2

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about this."

Q. Okay.

O. Yes.

A.

A. Yes. O. -- you discussed the next day? Yes. Q. Did anything else happen on May 11th, the day that you met with Buffington, Reinking and Girvin? I cleaned out my classroom. That was the A. only other thing. Q. Okay. Did you have any other contacts with anybody from Conestoga Valley? 10 Just picking up my items, my desk and my items that day. I wrote an apology letter, but that 11 was prior to the final evaluation date. 12

O. Okay. I'm talking about after you finished your

-- after you cleaned out your desk, you took your desk

Q. Oh, after you cleaned out your desk on May 11th.

Okay. Q. Girvin said this isn't the time to talk about criticisms of Reinking, you went home? Correct. Q. Any other interactions or contact with anybody

from Millersville that day? Not that day. Α.

46 (Pages 178 to 181)

Page 182 1 O. Okay. At some point did you and Reinking ever 1 discuss her memo "Unprofessional Behavior/Performance 2 2 3 in the Classroom"? 3 4 A. No. 4 5 5 O. Okav. 6 Do you want me to turn to that one? 6 7 Q. Not yet. I'm just trying to get the setup here. 7 8 Okay. Sorry. 8 9 Q. Here's a copy of your third amended Complaint. 9 Take that. Go to page six, okay, paragraph 28. It 10 10 A. says "On or about May 4th, 2006 a CV representative 11 11 downloaded, without Plaintiff's permission, a 12 12 photograph and text from Plaintiff's private web page 13 13 A. at www.MySpace.com." Tell me how you know that. 14 14 15 That's what I was told. 15 A. Q. Okay. And who told you that? 16 of 2006. 16 17 Mr. Girvin. 17 18 Q. Do you know who the CV representative is? 18 19 A. Yes. 19 Q. Who is it? 20 20 A. 21 A. Mr. Carly. 21 22 Q. And when did you find that out? 22 A. 23 Just recently, on paperwork that I read. 23 O. Okay. Some kind of alcohol? Q. Okay. 24 24 Correct. Α.

Page 184 Yeah, I just --MR. KRAMER: Off the record. (Whereupon, a discussion was held off the record.) BY MR. KRAMER: Q. This is a picture of you on Snyder-10. It's a picture of you making a sort of peace sign with a cup? Yeah. All right. And this was taken at a Halloween party at some point? No, it's a costume party. Q. Costume party. Okay. And the costume party took place in April Q. Okay. What was in the cup? A beverage. O. Well, was it a mixed drink? Yes. Okay. A mix of what kind of drink? I don't remember.

Page 183 1 A. I did not know who the CV representative 2 was, but I knew that it was downloaded by a colleague 3 of Ms. Reinking's. 4 Q. Okay. When you say the photograph and text, am 5 I correct in understanding that it's the photograph and the text on Snyder-10? 6 7 A. Yes. Q. Okay. Are you aware if anybody from CV 8 9 downloaded and looked at any other -- of your other 10 web pages, if that's the right term? Well, I didn't have any other web pages, 11 12 but the items on my web page on MySpace, I don't know 13 if they viewed anything else. Q. Okay. So what you're saying, then, is that -well, what you are saying is that Conestoga Valley's decision to bar you from the school was based on 16 17 Snvder-10? 18 It was told, and it's in notes, that 19 that's the camel -- or the straw that broke the camel's back. 20 21 Q. Okay. That wasn't my question. Are we talking 22 about any other web pages or photograph or text other 23 than what's on Snyder-10? A. No. Sorry. I misunderstood you. 24

Q. Okay. Did you consider that the photograph was 1 your personal web page? 2 3 It was part of my web page. A. 4 O. Okav. 5 A. It was -- basically the whole page was set up the entire time as a way for me to communicate with 7 my other friends that are mothers or that don't have a 8 lot of time to meet with me one on one and I don't 9 have time to meet with them one on one, and it was our 10 way of communicating back and forth. So we would 11 share our pictures to one another and text to one 12 another, so we would know what each other, you know, 13 was doing in our lives. 14 Q. So I take it you consider the photograph and the 15 text as personal and private? 16 Yes. At that time you could not have a private setting on your web pages. Now you can. 17 18 Q. But you certainly had no intention for anybody 19 other than your immediate friends to see it? 20 A. Correct. 21 Q. Okay. Go to the next paragraph, paragraph 29. It says that "The text accompanying the photo 22 contained Plaintiff's personal thoughts and opinions." 23

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24

Is that true?

Okay. Let's talk about the text. 2 O.

- 3 Okay. Can I -- hold on, let me bring it
- up here in front of me. 4

Yes.

- 5 O. I'm sorry, yeah.
- Okay. 6

A.

- You told us Bree is a friend of yours? 7 Q.
- 8
- Q. Did Bree tell you which one of your students was 9
- looking at the page? 10
- Yes, Brittany, who's a third block 11
- 12 student.

1

- 13 O. Okay.
- 14 A. Brittany King.
- 15 O. Okay. At any time did you tell your students at
- Conestoga Valley that you had a MySpace web page? 16
- 17
- Q. Do you know how Brittany found out you had a 18
- 19 personal web page?
- 20 You can search anybody on there.
- Q. You don't know how she found out? 21
- 22 A.

1

- 23 What did you mean, quote, and I don't say Q.
- anything that will hurt me (in the long run)? What

1 Q. Okay.

10

16

- 2 I took the picture of that off there,
- downloaded it onto my computer, copied it to a file, 3

Page 188

- 4 put the file onto the MySpace.
- 5 O. Okay.
- 6 A. In which it uploaded it and then put it on 7 my page.
- 8 Q. All right. How do you get the text into your
- 9 MySpace page?
 - A. Type it.
- Q. Okay. So in other words, you type it in as if 11
- you're typing an e-mail, for example? 12
- 13 A. Correct.
- Q. But you're typing it on -- directly onto the 14
- MySpace page? 15
 - Correct. A.
- Q. Okay. You then say, "Plus, I don't think that 17
- 18 they would stoop that low as to mess with my future."
- What does that refer to? 19
- 20 That if the students looked at anything,
- 21 that I don't think that they would say anything about
- 22 it anyways.
- 23 Q. "They" here refers to students?
- 24 A. Yes.

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- does that mean?
- 2 I guess I always critique what I say, and that I felt that if anything on my web page was 3
- questioned, that it wouldn't be anything that would 4
- 5 hurt me. I don't know why I added "in the long run"
- in quotations (sic). It was just something I wrote at 6
- 7 the moment.
- 8 Q. Okay. When do you write these? You write these
- 9 from your home computer?
- Oh, yes. 10 A.
- Q. No, I'm not implying you're doing it at 11
- Conestoga Valley. No, no, no. I'm just trying to... 12
- And so you have -- anybody can have a 13
- MySpace web page, and they're able to put on pictures, 14
- whatever pictures they want? 15
- 16 Correct.
- 17 Q. Personal pictures, family photos?
- 18 Correct.
- Q. Okay. How do you get, logistically, the picture 19
- 20 that you're holding in your hand to the web page?
- This was a digital photograph taken by my 21
- 22 best friend. She has a whole variety of pictures on
- 23 her own personalized site, where you need a name and a
- 24 password.

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- Q. How would students mess with your future? 1
- 2 I don't know. It was just a general 3 thought that I had at the moment.
 - Q. Okay. So you're saying --
 - I had a lot of students that, in my mind,
- I thought didn't like me, because I was strict and 6
- 7 firm.

4

- 8 Q. I see.
- 9 And we are all told stories as teachers or A.
- upcoming teachers that there are MySpace pages or 10
- Facebook pages that are generated by students to hurt 11 12
- the teachers. 13
 - O. Oh, I see.
- 14 Or that other things have happened to past
- teachers because a student doesn't like them. So it's 15
- always in the back of your mind as a teacher or an 16
- 17 upcoming teacher that, hey, these students might not
- 18 like you, they might have a vendetta, they might try
- 19 to do something. But that's -- that's what I was
- 20 implying by that. I don't think that any of my
- 21 students, as much as they might not have liked me,
- that they would do something to mess with my future. 22
- Q. Okay. Then you write "I figure a couple 23
- students will actually send me a message when I'm no 24

1 longer their official teacher."

2 Did you consider yourself the students' 3 official teacher?

4 At that point, because I was in the 5 classroom all the time and Nicole was hardly in the 6 classroom. And while I wasn't a like school district

7 teacher, I was their teacher. Like they considered 8 Ms. Snyder their teacher, not Mrs. Reinking their

9 teacher. So yes.

O. Did any student ever tell you that? 10

11 Well, they considered me their teacher.

Q. Okay. Because you were there in the classroom 12

13 full-time?

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14 Α. Yes.

Q. It then says "They keep asking me why I won't 15 apply there." Who is "they"? 16

My students. 17 A.

18 Q. Which students?

All my students in all of my classes.

They would ask me, non-traditional and traditional 20

21 students, I can't think of every single one of their

single names, but a lot of them asked me, "Ms. Snyder, 22

23 why aren't you applying here? Are you going to get a

24 job here? Why not?" Page 190

that, and that that is the reason I contacted

2 Dr. Wenrich about going into elementary education. I

Page 192

3 felt that if I taught younger students, even under 7th

4 and 8th grade, that they might have more of a passion

for learning and that I could really grasp ahold of 5

6 them as students.

7 O. Okay.

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A. So I didn't really want to tell my students that I was turned off by teaching --

10 O. Because of them?

> A. Yes.

12 O. Because of them.

That would -- that would make it even

worse, and that would be unprofessional, to me. So like I said before, it was misconstrued

by Mrs. Reinking that that was about her, and it had 17 nothing to do with her.

Q. Why didn't you tell her that?

I told her and she didn't believe me.

Q. Oh, okay. Got it. 20

> Yes. A.

22 Q. I take it, then, that the experience teaching at

23 Conestoga Valley, separate and apart from the

24 administration not being happy with your performance,

Page 191

O. Okay. 1

> A. And then I go on with the rest of it.

Q. Okay. Well, "Do you think it would hurt me to tell them the real reason (or who the problem was)"? What are you referring to there?

Myself. I thought it would be unprofessional to tell them the real reason why I didn't want to be a secondary ed teacher anymore.

O. And why was that?

A. Or at least a secondary ed teacher for seniors. The experience that I had at CV, not the administrators or the teacher's fault, but my contact with the students, my interaction with the students, was an eye-opening experience.

15

Q. How so? I saw -- I got to see the side of seniors -- or the side of senioritis that 7th and 8th grade teachers don't get to see or that student teachers normally don't get to see, where they're unmotivated and they really don't care about the subject. And I wanted to really teach students that cared about school and they really wanted to be at school. And I felt that I was a problem or I was

the problem, because I didn't wholeheartedly grab onto

Page 193 you didn't want to teach secondary education anymore?

2 I was still going to teach secondary 3 education; however, I was looking for a position in 4 the middle school, so I could have that experience. 5 O. I see.

I would have turned down a position teaching seniors, more than likely, due to my experience; however, I still applied at the schools, I still wholeheartedly would have gone for an interview and talked to them about the position they had available and obtained a position --

Q. Okay.

A. -- if it would have been in a middle school level, because that's what I was looking for.

15 Q. When someone applies to a school district for a job, do you apply for a specific grade, that is, would 16 you apply for 12th grade and only the 12th grade 17 18 opening, or how does that work?

19 A. Normally it will state in the paper 20 whether it's a middle school position or high school 21 position.

22 Q. Okay.

> And if it does not state in the, you know, the request, the school administrators will actually

23

6

11

- 1 tell you at the interview what they're looking for.
- Q. I see. 2
- 3 We have a 9th grade position open, we have an 8th grade position opening. 4
- 5 O. Okav.
- A. That's what we were told at the seminar, 6
- 7 in January, that's how they will operate.
- Q. Okay. Got it. 8
- 9 Did you ever have a conversation with Kim 10 Seldomridge?
- No. 11 A.
- 12 Q. Okay. How are you -- you allege that he got
- 13 involved somehow. Why do you believe that?
- As far as I know, Dr. Huskin (ph), who's 14
- 15 the administrator, was not available at the time. I'm
- not sure exactly why. But Dr. Huskin was not
- available, so Kim Seldomridge was the next person in 17
- 18 line.
- 19 Q. Okay. But how -- how do you even -- how do you
- know someone even went to Seldomridge to discuss what
- 21 was going on?
- 22 Just things I was told by Mr. Girvin
- 23 throughout that week. You know, this person took the
- 24 picture here, this person talked to this person. It

- Page 194 Page 196 "I'm sorry. I don't know what I did wrong." And I 1
 - 2 said, "I will see you on Thursday." And that was the
 - 3 last time I actually talked to Buffington.
 - 4 Q. Okay.
 - A. For the exception of Thursday, of course.
 - Q. Okay. It says, on page seven of the Complaint,
 - 7 if you could go there, at the top it says "Upon
 - 8 viewing the photo and text, Buffington immediately
 - 9 directed Reinking to draft a list of Plaintiff's other 10
 - allegedly 'unprofessional behavior' at CV."
 - Tell me how you know that.
 - 12 A. Well, I didn't write this.
 - 13 Q. Okay.
 - 14 Mark did. But there is actually a A.
 - document within the items that are in his hands that 15
 - is an e-mail from Kim Seldomridge asking -- or 16
 - thanking Nicole for writing this document. 17
 - 18 O. Okay.
 - 19 Which was after the fact. A.
 - 20 Q. Okay.
 - MR. VOIGT: You mean from Buffington 21
 - 22 thanking her?
 - BY MR. KRAMER: 23
 - 24 Q. Right, I mean, here it says Buffington told

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- was just basic background information that he gave me 1
- 2 to help me understand the situation.
- Q. Okay. Were you speaking to Buffington at all 3
- 4 these days?
- 5 A. Buffington contacted me on Monday prior to
- 6 graduation.
- 7 O. Right.
- 8 And she told me there was an issue with my
- 9 professionalism, that I was not allowed to come back
- on school grounds. 10
- Q. Did she say why? 11
- Just that there was a question with my 12
- 13 professionalism.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. That I was not allowed to come back on
- school grounds. If I came back on school grounds, 16
- that they would escort me away. And that my final 17
- 18 evaluation would be Thursday, during the prep period,
- 19 which is period four.
- 20 O. Okay.
- 21 And I said I was sorry for whatever
- 22 happened. And I actually called her back right after
- 23 that and apologized again. And I was hysterical. I
- was crying at that point. And I, you know, told her, 24

- Page 197 Reinking to draft the list. I just want to know why
- -- and if you have no personal information, say so.
- A. I don't know, I just -- no, I don't.
- Q. Okay.
 - A. That's what Mark wrote.
- 6 Q. I mean, I understand that lawyers talk with
- 7 their clients and write a Complaint, but I want to
- 8 know what your personal knowledge of the allegations

 - are. That's all.
- 10 So you don't -- you personally don't know if Buffington directed Reinking to draft a list of 11
- 12 the, quote, unprofessional behavior?
- 13 A. I only know that from what's in the e-mail 14 response.
- Q. Okay. Next paragraph it says "On March (sic) 15
- 16 8th, 2006, Buffington telephoned Girvin to express her
- outrage over the 'Drunken Pirate' photo and text." Do 17 18 you have any personal knowledge of that?
- 19 A. Mr. Girvin told me that Buffington was not 20 happy at all.
- 21 Q. Okay. It then says "She told Girvin that
- 22 Seldomridge was involved in the matter and was very
- 23 upset." Do you have any personal knowledge of that?
- 24 A. No.

6

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- 1 Q. Okay. It then says that "Girvin professed his
- 2 horror over the 'Drunken Pirate' incident and vowed
- 3 swift action against Plaintiff. He then informed Bray
- 4 and Wenrich of the incident." Do you have any
- 5 personal knowledge of any of those allegations?
- 6 A. Just through items that are documented.
- 7 Q. Okay. You called Girvin after Buffington called
- 8 you on that Monday?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. At that point did Girvin have any knowledge of
- 11 what had happened at Conestoga Valley?
- 12 A. He had knowledge of what happened. He
- 13 couldn't give me that knowledge. He couldn't go into
- 14 detail. I said to him -- he said, "Is there anything
- 15 you can think of that might be of issue?" And I said,
- 16 "Not really." I said, "I have a MySpace account, but
- 17 I didn't say anything about my students or staff
- 18 members," because we were told in the January meeting
- 19 we weren't supposed to do that. And I said, "I didn't
- 20 do that."
- 21 I said, "I don't understand what's going
- 22 on." I kept saying that over and over, "I don't
- 23 understand." Because, to me, what I wrote there had
- 24 nothing to do -- I wasn't putting anyone down. So I

- 1 said he couldn't tell me.
 - 2 Q. Okay. Did you have any -- okay. On Monday, the
 - 3 8th of May, do you have any more conversations with
 - 4 anybody from Conestoga Valley or Millersville?
 - A. The 8th of May?
 - Q. That Monday.
 - A. I had a conversation with Buffington and I
 - 8 had a conversation with Girvin.
 - 9 Q. Right. After you hung up with Girvin, do you
 - 10 have any more conversation with anybody from
 - 11 Millersville --
 - 12 A. No.
 - 13 Q. -- or Conestoga?
 - 14 A. No.
 - 15 Q. How about the next day, it says you spoke with
 - 16 Girvin. This was -- was this a telephone
 - 17 conversation?
 - 18 A. I wrote him an e-mail in the morning, and
 - 19 I talked to him concerning the situation in the
 - 20 afternoon.
 - 21 Q. Okay. And -- okay. Describe the conversation
 - 22 with Girvin.
 - A. I talked to him concerning my e-mail that
 - 24 I sent him, that if it had to do with MySpace, you

Page 199

- 1 was trying to get some information from him, and he
- 2 said, "I can't talk about it today, but you're on the
- 3 right track." Meaning I was on the right track as far
- 4 as the MySpace account was concerned.
- 5 Q. Did he actually say that?
- 6 A. No, he said that on Tuesday.
- 7 Q. Well, I'm not talking about the conver -- the
- 8 phone conversation you had with him on Monday, he said
- 9 he -- you said he couldn't give you any more
- 10 information, and what I want to know is, at that point
- 11 in time what did Girvin know about what had happened
- 12 at Conestoga Valley?
- 13 A. That it had something to do with my
- 14 MySpace account.
- 15 Q. Okay. And that's all you know?
- 16 A. That's all I know that he knew.
- 17 Q. Okay.

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- 18 A. If he knew any more, he didn't tell me.
- 19 Q. Is it possible he didn't know anything else?
- 20 MR. VOIGT: Objection. Speculation.
- 21 BY MR. KRAMER:
- 22 Q. I mean, he didn't imply he knew anything other
- 23 than what he told you, correct?
 - A. He wouldn't tell me anything else. He

Page 201

Page 200

- 1 know, why were we allowed to have them, first. And I
- 2 said if my MySpace was an issue, why didn't someone
- 3 bring it up beforehand? Why did it happen Monday
- 4 before graduation? Why is it an issue now? I said to
- 5 him that he saw that I was making, you know, a
- 6 turnaround, that I had the best interests of the
- 7 students in mind. I said I don't understand where
- 8 this is coming from. It was all like very confusing
- 9 for me.

10 And that is when we talked about me

- 11 removing my MySpace account, and he said that would be
- 12 in my best interest. And within two hours after we
- 13 talked, it was gone. And he also told me that my
- 14 final evaluation would be on Thursday, that he didn't
- 15 know what Millersville was deciding as far as my
- 16 degree, that he would give me more information about
- 17 the meeting with Millersville on Thursday.
- 18 O. All right. Between that conversation on Tuesday
- 19 and the meeting on Thursday, did you have any
- 20 conversations or interactions with anybody at
- 21 Millersville?
 - A. At Millersville, no. At CV, yes.
- 23 Q. Tell me about the CV.
- 24 A. I still had documents that I needed to

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Page 202 grade for my students, and I couldn't get into the 1 classroom to get those documents. So I had e-mailed 2 Nicole -- or Nicole had e-mailed me and I e-mailed 3 4 Nicole back concerning the grades, concerning the situation. I told her that regardless of the 5 circumstances, that I was looking forward to seeing 6 7 her on Thursday, that the text and the comments that 8 are in question had nothing to do with her, and I 9 assured her of that. And that was basically it. It 10 was basically all concerning the grades of the students, the homework, and that type of information. 11 Q. Okay. How about after that, any more 12 conversations with anybody from Conestoga Valley that 13 14 day --15 A. No. Q. -- or the next day? 16 No. 17 18 Q. Let's talk about Reinking's memo "Unprofessional Behavior/Performance in the Classroom." 19 20 MR. VOIGT: Want to just stretch your 21 legs? We've been at it for about an hour. 22 23 (Brief recess.)

Page 204 MR. VOIGT: Other than what we may have discussed, because that's privileged.

3 THE WITNESS: Yeah, other than the documents that we have discussed --4

5 BY MR. KRAMER:

O. Yeah, I don't --

A. -- I was told by Girvin that she was upset, that that was the final straw.

O. Okav.

10 It wasn't in these exact words, but he A. 11 implied the same thing as what's on the documents that 12

13 Q. Okay. I don't want to know, and you can't tell 14 me, if Mark told you something. So when I say what 15 did anybody tell you, I'm talking about the other 16 actors.

17 A. Okay.

18 O. I don't want to know what Mark said.

19 Okav.

20 Q. It says "She demanded MU deny Plaintiff her BSE

and teaching certificate forthwith." Again, you have 21

no personal knowledge of that other than what you may 22

have seen in documents or what Mark may have told you? 23 24

A. Correct.

Page 203

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BY MR. KRAMER:

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2 Q. Page seven of your Complaint. I think you just 3 had that. Turn to page seven. 4

Paragraph 33, if you'd read paragraph 33 and just tell me if you have any personal knowledge of the allegations.

"On or about May 10, 2006, Wenrich, in her individual capacity, interviewed Buffington and Girvin about 'Drunken Pirate' incident. Buffington explained that the incident was the straw that broke the camel's back regarding Plaintiff's unfitness to teach. She demanded MU deny Plaintiff her BSE and teaching certificate forthwith."

14 Q. Other than documents you may have seen, do you 15 have any personal knowledge of what's alleged here?

A. From what other people have told me, yes, that's -- and the documents.

18 O. Okav.

> A. That was the only way.

O. You weren't present at the conversations 20

21 described --

22 No. A.

23 Q. -- here?

What did other people tell you?

1 Q. Okay. Turn the page. Paragraph 35, sentence

says "Upon reading Plaintiff's letter, Buffington gave a note to Girvin, Wenrich and Bray, again expressing

her fury over the 'Drunken Pirate' incident."

Other than documents you may have seen, do you have any personal knowledge of that?

Not other than the documents I've seen.

Q. Okay. "She emphasized that if Defendants did not deny Plaintiff her BSE in teaching degree, CV may not permit future MU student teachers to perform their internships there."

Again, have you personal knowledge other than what you may have seen in documents?

No, only what I've seen in documents.

15 Q. Okay. Turn to the next page, page nine.

Paragraph 40, it says "Reinking, Buffington and Girvin 16 17

then gave Plaintiff's" -- "then gave Plaintiff

18 Reinking's list of Plaintiff's other allegedly

unprofessional behavior." 19

20 Did they give you a document? And I'm now 21 talking about the document that's next in your packet.

22 This one. (Indicating.)

Yeah. Did they hand that to you or -- is that 23 24

the document you're referring to in these allegations?

52 (Pages 202 to 205)

Page 205

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Page 206

1 A. Yes, they actually did.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. I think I said before that she didn't give it to me before -- she didn't print it out and hand 4 that to me prior to me being kicked out, but she did 5

hand it to me at that point. 6

Q. Okay. "She" meaning Buffington gave it to you, 7 8 or Reinking?

9 A. One of them.

10 Q. Okay.

I can't remember which. 11 A.

12 Q. Okay.

MR. KRAMER: Let's call it Snyder -- where 13

14 are we?

15

COURT REPORTER: 13.

BY MR. KRAMER: 16

17 Q. And we're going to go through this quickly,

because much of it we've been through before. 18

19 Okay. Should I put this away? A.

20 (Indicating.)

O. Yeah, you're done. Yeah. 21

Okav. 22

23 Q. I'm now looking at Snyder-13. We talked about

this already. A couple of questions that I didn't ask 24

Normally it wasn't like really loud. It was just on a

Page 208

2 little bit for background music.

3 O. Right.

> That they could kind of get into the music or get into the beat of the music and kind of get

their juices flowing. Their mental juices. 6

7 Q. So the song was background music --

> Correct. A.

9 Q. - basically? Sort of Muzak in elevators?

Correct.

O. Did you use this song in any lesson plan? 11

> A. No.

13 Q. Okay.

It was just a -- one of the -- one of the 14

students actually knows Ben Folds, who was one of my

favorite artists, and so I picked that CD and we put 16

it in. And that was how we picked that individual CD. 17

Q. Okay. Let's go to the next point on Reinking's 18

document. Tell me what happened on Valentine's Day, 19

or the day after Valentine's Day? 20

Came into class, this is the third block 21

class, and my students asked me, "Well, Ms. Snyder, 22

23 what did you do for Valentine's Day?" And I said --

it's my first instance where I was actually questioned 24

Page 207

before. Had you listened to this -- this is a song by 1 2 Ben Folds?

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Ben Folds, yeah. I listened to the song previously and I did not hear the profanity in the end, but the word that's in the song that she took -or that she skipped over was the word "ass."

Q. Okay. When had you heard the song before?

It was on a CD that I played normally, but I didn't play every single song all the time.

Q. Okay. Did you apologize to Reinking? 10

11 Yes.

O. Okay. Tell me what she said in your 12

13 conversation?

> She told me that it was inappropriate for A. me to play music with swear words in it, and I told

her that I was sorry and that I would refrain from playing music, and if I did play music I would make 17

sure that I checked all music before I played it in 18

class, and which I did. 19

20 What was the purpose of playing a song?

21 Normally we would play music, especially tapes or CDs that the students were familiar with, to 22

kind of get their mind flowing when they were doing 23 creative writing or writing assignments in class. 24

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Page 209 by my students about something personal in my life, and I was kind of like, oh.

3 I said I went to Damon's Grille, I went 4 with my boyfriend and my kids. And I ran into my

5 ex-husband, of all places, and we decided it wouldn't

be best if we ate there. So we left and we got pizza 6 at a pizza place. They asked me if I got any gifts,

7 8 and I told them I got a lion and a bear holding a

dandelion. And after that, went right into the class 9

10 as normal, went through the class.

11 And not only Girvin, but Reinking yelled 12 at me for telling my personal information to the

students, that that was inappropriate. 13

Q. They yelled at you or they --

14 They were very stern and they said that I 15

shouldn't tell my personal information to the 16

17 students.

18 And when did they tell you that?

19 A. After class.

20 O. Okay.

And it was also in one of the documents 21

22 that -- in Girvin's document for that class

23 observation, he wrote it on that as well.

Q. Did you apologize to Girvin and Reinking for

53 (Pages 206 to 209)

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1 that?

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2 Yeah. A.

3 Okay. We talked about "Shut up," we talked about "Shut up," so we don't need to do it again. 4

5 She said that she twice warned you not to have -- she warned you about having a MySpace account? 6

That's ridiculous. That is the most fabricated thing on that page.

9 Q. Not true?

10 A. Not true.

11 O. Okav.

12 A. I'm sorry. I'm wholeheartedly upset that 13 she would even say that.

Q. Okay. You said that in the January 2006 student 14 teacher meeting somebody told you about, I guess, web 15

pages? Tell me what they said and who said it. 16 17 I believe it was Reinking -- I mean, it

was Wenrich, sorry, when she was up speaking in front

19 of everyone, and she said, you know, if you have a

20 personal web page, be careful what you put on the web

21 page. She told us about a past student who said some

very hostile things about the person -- the principal 22

23 of the school in which they were student teaching.

24 And she said don't put anything personal about your

Page 210 text is ambiguous. But she took it for what she

> 2 wanted to take it for and never asked me personally

Page 212

Page 213

3 what it was about.

Q. Okay. On that -- in the text I don't even see 4

Conestoga Valley referenced.

No, nothing. Nothing.

O. Okay. And I don't see Millersville referenced 7

8 either, correct?

9 No, you're correct. A.

10 Q. Okay. I'm going to assume that you're going to 11 say you never encouraged any of your students to look

12 at your MySpace account.

Correct. The item right here that is on the sheet, though, however, "On Friday, May 5th,

during class, Ms. Snyder asked a few students," that 15

did happen. It wasn't a few students. It was 16

17 Brittany King, the one that talked to Brianne, my best

18 friend. I will not deny that that did happen. And I

19 said to that student it is unprofessional, it is not

20 needed to contact your teacher's friends outside of

21 school hours.

22 Q. Wait, are you saying that Brittany contacted

23 your friend Bree?

24 Brittany saw Bree at a tanning salon and A.

Page 211

1 students or personal information about your

cooperating teacher. Don't make that move, because 2

3 you'll end up like the other student that got removed

4 from their placement.

So the entire semester, even in that blog, I didn't mention anything about my students personally, their names or anything bad about my students, and I didn't mention anything about Nicole at all.

10 Reading the text of the posting now, do you see how Reinking might think it was about her? 11

12 Yes, but she never asked me personally 13 about it.

14 Q. What do you mean?

15 When -- like when she viewed the text or even the picture, she never confronted me about it. 16

She never came up to me and said this is inappropriate 17 18 or had a meeting between Girvin and I. She basically

19 took this information and went right above me and

20 didn't even ask me what it meant or why I did it or

that I should remove it. None of that happened. 21

22 Q. Okay.

23 So the reading it, anybody could read it A. for what it's worth. It's ambiguous. I mean, all

1 said, "Aren't you Ms. Snyder's friend?" That's

2 what --

4

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3 O. How would she know that?

A. (Indicating.)

5 Q. Okay.

MR. VOIGT: Indicating you don't know? 6

BY MR. KRAMER:

8 Q. Yeah, I mean, I'm just --

9 Indicating that either she was on my web 10 page and found Bree that way or she saw me out with 11 her someplace before.

12 Q. Okay. Was there a picture of Bree on your web 13

page?

14 Yes. You have a friends list, and your 15 friends -- normally on a MySpace page it will be your

16 page, and at the very bottom of the page on the

17 right-hand side will be a list of your friends with

18 their pictures.

19 Q. Okay.

20 And I asked her and I told her that that's 21 not appropriate, that you do not contact or confront 22 your teacher's friends.

23 Q. Okay.

> And that was the end of the conversation. A.

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Page 214

1 That was the only time I mentioned MySpace at all.

2 Q. Okay. Can I safely assume you didn't intend any 3 of your Conestoga Valley students to see your MySpace

4 account?

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- A. Correct.
- Okay. Can I safely assume you didn't intend any 6 7 of the Conestoga Valley administrators or other 8 teachers to see your web space?

A. Correct.

10 O. Reinking says you went above her for some issues and you -- we earlier discussed you getting a key to 11 12 the room.

13 A. Correct.

- Q. Were there any other issues, as far as you 14 15 recall, that concerned Reinking, that pissed her off?
- Well, the one issue she was present and so 16 17 was the reading teacher, Mrs. Barnett. I can't
- remember her first name. The two teachers and then 18
- 19 Mrs. Buffington were present in her office, and I
- 20 asked Mrs. Buffington, because I was curious, whether
- 21 or not student teachers were allowed to come back
- 22 after they graduate from college just to observe the
- 23 classrooms and to see the students finish out the
- remainder of the year until they graduate. And that 24

1 dress down as well.

> 2 Q. Okay.

3 A. One half day, Nicole was actually absent that day, but she came in in the afternoon. We had a 4 5 half day, and it was only senior presentations that day. It was also St. Patrick's Day, so we were 6

Page 216

7 celebrating that. A lot of the teachers were not 8

wearing their regular attire. They were dressing --9

Q. In green?

A. -- to celebrate the occasion. I wore green flip-flops, and she had told me that I was not adhering to the dress code by wearing flip-flops, and I did not wear them after that point. I didn't even wear sandals as it was getting warmer, because I was afraid I was gonna get yelled at for what I was wearing.

- 17 Q. And she said you were eager to wear jeans? 18
 - On dress-down days. A.
- 19 Q. Just on dress-down days. Okay.

Yeah, we were allowed to wear jeans on dress-down days. So of course I was eager if I didn't have to dress up as a teacher, but...

MR. KRAMER: Okay. Mark this. That's 13.

Page 215

- 1 was my only question. I was just very curious. I
- 2 wanted to see how the students did, especially with
- like their final exams and things like that. And with 3
- 4 Nicole present, I didn't think I was going over her
- 5 head, but she assumed I was going over her head in
- 6 that instance.

12

- 7 Q. Since May 2006 have you spoken to any of your 8 Conestoga Valley students?
- 9 I ran into Andrew Eterline (ph), who's one of my third block students, at Target. He asked me 10 11 how I was doing. I said fine. I said, "Are you doing
- good in college," because he was going to Penn State. 13 I ran into another one of my female students, I forget
- 14 where, it was at like another mall or something like
- 15 that. I said "Hi" and quickly walked away.
- Especially because of things that have happened, I 16
- 17 really did not want to get in a conversation with them about the litigation. 18
- Q. Okay. All right. She said -- Reinking said 19
- 20 that you wore flip-flops and dressed down.
- 21 We had dress-down days, which were 22 approved by the faculty. We actually went to a
- 23 specific person that's in charge of dress-down days
- and asked them if it was okay for student teachers to 24

Page 217 (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-13 was marked

for identification.)

BY MR. KRAMER:

5 Q. Let's just mark that as Snyder-14. This is the document -- did you write this document? This is the 6 7 one starting "Dr. Bray."

A. For the appeal meeting I took the evaluations that I completed for the classroom teachers, the lyrics to the song, in addition to the responses to each one of the behaviors or the misbehaviors listed --

Q. Right.

A. -- by Mrs. Reinking, and I wrote this all out for Dr. Bray, so she could read it before she made her decision at the appeal hearing. I thought it was important to explain each one of those points in detail, because just seeing this list wouldn't give

19 her an explanation. In addition to that, my doctor

20 wrote a formal note saying that my appointment was 21 switched, to back up the last thing on the list.

22 Q. Okay. Did you give this document, Snyder-14, to 23 Dr. Bray?

24 A. Yes.

55 (Pages 214 to 217)

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Page 218

Q. Did she keep it? 1 2

A. Yes.

3 Okay. Let's go to the next document. This is -- you can skip that one. And that, you can skip. 4 5

MR. KRAMER: Okay. The e-mail from you to Barry Girvin mark as next.

(Whereupon, Exhibits Snyder-14 and Snyder-15 were marked for identification.)

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BY MR. KRAMER: 11

- 12 O. Did you write this e-mail?
- 13 Yes. A.
- 14 Q. On or about May 9th?
 - Yes. I wrote it in the morning, and I spoke to him in the afternoon. That's when he actually told me it was about the MySpace account.
- 18 Q. And what was your point in writing this e-mail?
 - I mean, I even say at the top like I was confused, I have emotions. I was trying to get across to him how I was feeling and things I was thinking, and I told him that I didn't -- I wanted to clarify
- 23 everything that I was feeling without making anyone

24 angry.

And I did not know how I was going to get 1 all of this done, because normally, in the classroom 2 3 watching -- observing Nicole, I had two periods of over 100 -- or about 100 minutes that I was able to 4 work on these items. And with me being at home and 5 the documents being at school, there was no way for me 6 7 to work on them. So that was what these two messages

8 -- or the two paragraphs were about. 9 Q. Okay. A couple of paragraphs down, "Lastly, is 10 there a way that I can request that no one is placed with Mrs. Reinking again." 11

Those are -- and you talk about a negative experience most of the semester. Pretty strong words. What's -- why was there -- I mean, what experience was so negative about the semester?

I actually got a chance to talk to some of my other peers that were doing student teaching placements by that point, and I told them how much I was teaching in the classroom and the amount of work I was doing. It was almost like I was the teacher and I was placed in this situation so she would not have to do the work. That's how it seemed.

And I was having a lack of communication and I felt very frustrated, and I told him. You know,

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And it's that I wanted to vent with somebody that knew the whole situation, exactly what I

3 was -- what I have gone through the whole semester,

the transition I did make, and I felt that the person 4 5 that I needed to talk to about this was Mr. Girvin,

because he was in the middle of everything. 6

Q. Did you feel that he was essentially on your 7 8 side during this whole thing, or supporting you?

10 Q. Okay. The second paragraph and the third paragraph relate to some duties that you still need to 11 12 complete.

> A. Correct.

Q. Are those the duties and tasks that Nicole 14 15 Reinking finished up for you?

They were the things that were given to me. I was actually able to retrieve these items, the 60 journals and the packets, Mr. Girvin brought them

19 to me, so I could finish -- so I could finish grading.

And -- but most of the work the students really didn't 20

21 hand in, since I wasn't there anymore, and caused them

22 to go into failing grades, because the journals and

23 the packets were a high percentage of their grade.

Q. Okay. 24

Page 221

Page 220

where it says "I only mentioned a small part to you," that is what I was referring to, that I had talked to him.

And I didn't want to have another student go through those negative experiences, mainly the second part of the year, where I was having the

negative experiences. But I didn't want another 8 student to go through that if she was inexperienced as a cooperating teacher. And if she was an experienced 9

10 cooperating teacher and it wasn't a problem, then

that's fine. But from the experience I had and from 11 12 me getting kicked out of my placement and there --

there was no meaning. There was nothing to justify 13

14 the situation prior to me just getting kicked out. So

15 that was, you know, a main part of it.

But I guess what I understand is -- you're 16

17 referring to a negative experience most of the semester. Is that referring to you feeling 18

19 overburdened with work?

20 No, I mean, that's part of the job. I 21 mean, part of teaching is being overburdened with 22 work. Let me see here. Let me go through it.

23 Take your time, read that paragraph.

"That no one is placed with Ms. Reinking

- 1 again. I can rate you as a supervisor, but I was
- never able to rate her as a co-op." You can rate your
- 3 supervising teachers from Millersville, but you can
- 4 never rate your cooperating teacher at the school
- 5 district.
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. So I never really could evaluate Nicole
- 8 and give her a rating for future supervisors at
- 9 Millersville. There was no way for me to do that. "I
- 10 don't know how you feel about this, but I had a
- 11 negative experience most of the semester; I only
- mentioned a small part to you." And that was the 12
- miscommunication. 13
- Q. Okay. 14
- 15 A. The other negative aspects were, you know,
- 16 the feedback, that I wasn't getting the feedback, that
- 17 I felt I was lagging in the beginning of the semester
- 18 and I felt that if I was with an experienced co-op
- 19 maybe that would have been a little bit better of an
- 20 experience.
- 21 "I don't want another student teacher to
- 22 have to go through this. I am sorry that I didn't say
- 23 something sooner, and maybe there is nothing I can do
- 24 about it now." Meaning maybe I should have said

17

- 1 About two hours later.
- 2 Q. All right. Tell me about that conversation with

Page 224

Page 225

- 3 Barry on May 9th.
- Well, it was mainly for clarification. 4
- 5 And he finally told me that it was the web page, like
- 6 I said; and it was the caption and the photo, and "the
- 7 caption" meaning Drunken Pirate, and then the text of
- 8 the blog, all three coupled together, that Buffington
- 9 was furious about it, that she contacted Millersville,
- 10 that Millersville doesn't know what they were going to
- 11 do at that point, if they were going to give me a
- 12 diploma or if they were going to give me nothing.
- 13 I said, "Would it be in my best interest
- 14 to get rid of my MySpace page?" And he said, "Yes,
- you're on the right track." And I got rid of the 15
- 16 MySpace page within two hours.
 - Other than that, it was all like "I'll
- give you more information on Thursday," concerning the 18
- 19 Millersville meeting and what we would be doing later
- 20 in the week -- or, I'm sorry, the Conestoga Valley
- 21 meeting and then what we would be doing later in the
- 22 week with Millersville.
- 23 Q. Okay. Did Buffington tell Girvin or anybody
- 24 else at Millersville to fail you in the student

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- something before midterm. Maybe I should have said
- 2 something at the beginning of the semester and then at
- 3 the middle of the semester and then towards the end.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 A. But I didn't.
- 6 Q. Okay. So just summarizing, the general
- experiences with Reinking were lack of communication 7
- 8 with Reinking --
 - A. Lack of experience.
- 10 Q. Her lack of experience.
- 11 And my lack of experience.
- 12 Q. And your lack -- right. And that's -- I mean --
- 13 and forgetting for a moment the drunken pirate part at
- 14 the end --

9

- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. -- that's what you refer to here?
- 17 Correct.
- 18 Q. The experience and the communication, that's the
- 19 negative experience?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. Okay. That's all I wanted to know.
- 22 Did he respond to this e-mail?
- 23 No, because we talked two hours later. A.
- 24 Q. Okay.

- 1 teaching course, do you know?
- 2 Well, the school district gave me an 3 unsatisfactory and Girvin has to give me an
- 4 unsatisfactory.
- 5 Q. Where does the -- where does the school district
- 6 give you an unsatisfactory, on what piece of paper --7 Nicole Reinking gave me an unsatisfactory
 - on my final evaluation.
- 9 O. I see. So --
- 10 And I was informed --A.
- 11 Q. I got it.

- 12 -- that if Nicole Reinking gives me an 13 unsatisfactory, that Barry Girvin has to give me an
- 14 unsatisfactory, then the PDE-340 has to have an
- 15 unsatisfactory on it, which causes me to fail
- 16 entirely.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 Or get the withdraw.
- 19 O. Okay. Got it. So the -- and the evaluation
- that you're referring to, Reinking's evaluation, is 20
- 21 the final evaluation that we talked about earlier
- today? 22
- 23 Yes.
- 24 O. Okay. Let's talk about the next document. This

- 1 is the apology letter. This is 16. Do you have that,
- 2 Ms. Snyder?

7

- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. You -- it says here you sent this to
- 5 several people, Reinking, Girvin, Buffington, Wenrich,
- 6 Bray, and Seldomridge.
 - A. Yes.
- 8 O. Why did you write this?
- 9 A. I felt that -- I wrote it for two reasons:
- 10 One, I was very upset about the situation. I felt
- 11 that what I did, what I had posted on my web page, did
- 12 not interfere with the stuff that I did previously as
- 13 a teacher, the turnaround I made, the things I did for
- 14 the students. But I wanted to apologize.
- Even though I didn't totally agree with
- how they viewed the situation and the picture and thetext, I still wanted to apologize for it. My mom
- always taught me to respect my elders, and most of the
- 19 people there were my elders, and I apologized to them
- 20 for something that I did wrong.
- 21 But I also went through everything that I
- 22 did at Conestoga Valley for the members of
- 23 Millersville, so they were able to see that I did make
- 24 an impact on these students, that I did try, and that

- Page 228
- 1 A. Yeah, exactly. I mean, I think that was 2 the reward, that when I went into the semester I was
- 3 naive and I thought I knew everything as a teacher, in
- which I didn't, and I did learn a lot. Even though it
- 5 was difficult and the experience was negative at
- 6 times, I still learned things. And it was still
- 7 rewarding, because I got the chance to teach 90
- 8 students to 120 students, if you want to take all the
- 9 classes or all the students that I taught. I had a
- 10 chance to teach that many students and to help them.
 - Q. Okay.

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23 24

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- 12 A. And help them pick out colleges or help
- 13 them, you know, get an A instead of a C. And that was
- 14 the biggest reward in itself, even though I wasn't
- 15 there the entire time. I was there for 14 weeks of it
- 16 to actually help the students.
- 17 Q. Okay. The first paragraph says "I know that
- 18 this incident has challenged all of you and myself as
- 19 well." What are you referring to there?
- A. The incident of me being removed from the 21 school.
- 22 Q. Okay. That's all for this.
 - (Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-16 was marked

Page 227

- I was responsible as a teacher.
- 2 Q. Okay.
- A. And I did write it while I was bawling my
- 4 eyes out.
- 5 Q. Okay. Rereading this, is everything you say in
- 6 here true and accurate?
- 7 A. (Pause.) Yes. I didn't want to hurt 8 anyone. I wanted to also present the positive
- 8 anyone. I wanted to also present the positive
 9 experiences that took me through student teaching and
- 10 the extra things that I did above and beyond my
- 11 teaching experience. I did not have to go and help
- 12 out with events or go to the school plays or go to the
- 13 sporting events to see my students, but I did that,
- 14 because the teachers I always had in high school or in
- 15 college were more involved with their students than
- 16 just on the surface, and that's what I felt that I
- 17 needed to do as a student teacher to succeed as well.
- 18 Q. Okay.

19

- A. So, yes.
- 20 Q. The center paragraph says you had a -- you've
- 21 had a rewarding, eye-opening experience at Conestoga
- 22 Valley High School. Does that refer to anything
- 23 specifically, or just it was an experience that you
- 24 learned from?

for identification.)

- 3 BY MR. KRAMER:
- 4 Q. Okay. Let's mark this next. This is -- and
- 5 we're just about at the end -- the Request for
- 6 Exception to Graduation Requirements. I think there
- 7 are several pages, if you would look at that. Tell me
- 8 how this came -- how this document came about.
- 9 A. After I met with Girvin and Wenrich --
- well, I met with Girvin and Wenrich, and Girvin had
 left after he went over the final PDE-430 Form. And I
- was talking with Wenrich, we had a conversation
- 13 concerning classes, and I was not able -- I'm not --
- 14 still not able to take any education classes at
- 15 Millersville the rest of my life. That's what I was
- 16 told.
 - Q. Who said that?
- 18 A. That's what I was told from Wenrich. And
- 19 I said, "I can't even take elementary education
- 20 courses?" And she said, "No." And I even appealed 21 that in the appeal meeting.
- However, we talked about those items. I
- talked to her about graduation and walking and whether
 they would state that I was graduating with a

Page 229

Page 230

- 1 Bachelor's in Secondary Education or Bachelor of Arts
- as I walked across to grab my diploma. I said I don't
- 3 want the -- my peers knowing that this happened,
- because I was embarrassed. So I asked her will they 4
- 5 announce BSE or BA, and she said that they will have
- 6 BSE cataloged in the flyer that they handed to
- 7 evervone.
- 8 Q. What's the fire?
- 9 Well, the -- oh, the flyer that they A.
- 10 hand --

12

1

2

- Q. Oh, flyer. 11
 - Yeah, flyer. A.
- 13 Q. I thought you said fire. Sorry.
- 14 No, the flyer that they hand to all the guests attending the graduation. And the actual slip 15
- that they read as we walk across is handwritten and we 16
- 17 tell them what we're graduating with. So they would
- state Bachelor's of Secondary Education. 18
- 19 She said that I would need to go to
- 20 Schneller and have her sign this document. Because I
- 21 was a BSE, I took other credits. When you're a
- Bachelor of Arts student, you have to take additional 22
- 23 gen eds -- I'm sorry.
- 24 O. General education?

1 We went over, obviously, the PDE-430 Form,

Page 232

Page 233

- and she sat there and told me about that. She told me 2 3 about the response.
- 4 Q. And, you know, I don't remember if this is an 5 exhibit, but let's -- this is the PDE-430.

7 (Whereupon, Exhibits Snyder-17 and 8 Snyder-18 were marked for identification.)

9 10 BY MR. KRAMER:

11 Q. I'm sorry, continue.

12 She spoke with me about how the caption

13 and the text and the other incidents affected my

14 graduating and that Dr. Schneller, and I'm not sure if 15 she said herself or Dr. Bray, but there was another

16 person involved, decided I would have a Bachelor of

17 Arts instead of nothing. And like I said before, that

18 I would have to get this signed.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. Main part of the meeting, though, was the

21 PDE-430, going over that and deciding whether I was

going to graduate or not. 22

23 O. And the PDE-430 is the form that Girvin fills

24 out?

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Page 231

Strike that. A.

- Q. Oh, I'm sorry.
- 3 You don't have to take general education
- credits. You have to take additional English credits, 4
- 5 and you would have that option, writing or print
- journalism. You would have some type of option when 6 7 you're a Bachelor of Arts student.

8 Since I was a secondary ed, those other 9 credits that I obtained would qualify me for the 10 option; however, I did not have enough credits for the actual English portion of the degree. 11

- 12 Q. Okay.
- Because I had education credits instead. 13 A.
- 14 O. All right.
- 15 So I had to have Dr. McCollum-Clark sign
- this -- I'm sorry, Dr. Schneller sign this, and then 16
- they had Dr. McCollum-Clark sign it afterwards. 17
- 18 because you need your advisor's signature for
- 19 anything. And I don't think Dr. Bray or Dr. Wenrich
- 20 had to sign it, but they enforced me getting it signed
- by the English department. 21
- 22 Q. Okay. Your conversation with Wenrich you
- 23 described a little bit. Anything else about that
- conversation that you remember?

Correct.

- Q. Okay. And that's the one in front of you --
- 3 well, you may have passed it. It's in there
- 4 somewhere.
- 5 A. Yeah, we passed through it already. This
- 6 one? (Indicating.)
 - Q. Got it. That's Snyder-18.
 - Did you and Girvin discuss the PDE-430 in -- at any time?
 - A. We discussed it in that meeting with Wenrich.
- 11 12 Q. Okay. Got it. Okay. And they presented to you
- 13 the information in here, and did you have any response 14
- to this? 15
 - A. No.
- 16 Q. No. Okay. You just listened to what they were 17 saying?
- 18 Yep. Yes. I'm sorry.
- 19 Q. On the exception to graduation requirements
- 20 documents, Snyder-17, it sounds like this was just a
- 21 document that you and others had to sign off on to
- 22 transfer -- to transfer your -- sorry, to change your
- 23 BSE to a BA?
- 24 A. Correct.

59 (Pages 230 to 233)

1 Q. And this is just the paperwork that --

2 Correct.

3 Q. -- Millersville needs to get through?

4 Yes.

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O. Okay. You later appealed the decision to Bray?

Yes. I told Wenrich on Friday that I was going to appeal the decision.

8 O. All right.

9 And I set up a meeting in Dr. Bray's office for the following Monday after graduation. 10

O. And who attended that meeting? 11

12 A. Dr. Wenrich, Dr. Bray, and my mother, and 13 myself.

14 Q. And how did that go down? What happened in that 15 meeting?

16 A. Dr. Bray said that my mother was the most calm parent that ever stepped foot in an appeal 17 meeting and that I should be applauded, because I was 18 19 the -- I was the person closest to graduation to lose 20 their degree.

> MR. VOIGT: Do you want to take a minute? MR. KRAMER: Yeah, take a -- let's go off

23 the record.

to happen, they would send me a letter.

2 Q. All right. What paperwork did they have that 3 they reviewed?

4 1 guess paperwork from Conestoga Valley 5 that I didn't see and the document itself, the caption underneath the picture and then the text of the blog. 6

Page 236

Page 237

7 Q. Right.

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8 And then Nicole Reinking's list of the A. 9 unprofessional things and then my response to them.

10 O. Okay. Do you know if they also considered the midterm evaluations? 11

> Α. Yes.

13 Q. Do they also consider the final evaluations, that is, the -- let me finish -- the one by Girvin, 14 15

the one by Reinking and the PDE-430?

Yes. A.

17 Q. Okay. Do you know if they considered the various, I guess, notes that we spoke about that

Reinking was taking, you know, her observations of --19 20

l don't know.

21 Q. Excuse me. Of you.

22 I don't know.

Q. Okay. How about, do you know if they considered

24 Girvin's comments on his eight observations that he

Page 235

(Brief recess.)

3 BY MR. KRAMER:

4 Q. Can you finish that, then?

Well, she just said that I was -- I was the person closest to graduation to ever lose their degree, like it was an award or something. And we went through the documents and the things in question, and then I gave her my responses to what -- Nicole's list, or Reinking's list.

Q. That's the document we spoke about? 11

Yes. And Dr. Wenrich asked me what my philosophy of teaching was, and I had to go through that. And she asked me if I still would want to teach elementary education, like go through those classes, and I said yes. I said I'd like the opportunity to take classes here at Millersville for elementary education. And she also asked me if I ever thought that this would affect my students or their parents, what I wrote in my -- on my web page.

And it was a lot of asking me questions on how I felt about the situation and the outcome of what happened. And they said that they would look over all the paperwork, that they would decide what was going

did of you? 1

> I believe so, yes. A.

3 Q. Okay. We're going to make this the next

4 document. We'll make these two together. This is 5

your CV and a cover letter. Proposed CV and a 6 proposed cover letter.

Are these -- whose comments are these on here?

These are Nicole's. I didn't actually A. 10 know that she took a copy, made a copy of these, but they're my -- it's my resume and my cover letter that I was going to hand in to Deann Buffington. 12

Q. Okay.

A. And I asked her to look it over and look for any mistakes. I told her I wrote it very quickly and there might be mistakes, because it was right around the time that I was making my lesson plans; and I had a lot of things to do, but I also wanted to make this a priority, because I had to apply at schools as well.

21 Q. Right.

> So I said, "I wrote it quickly. Can you please look over it?" I didn't know, like I said, that she made copies of it. But the first thing's my

> > 60 (Pages 234 to 237)

- 1 resume, and the bottom document's my cover letter.
- 2 O. Okay. So -- but you had asked her to review
- 3 your cover letter and your CV?
- 4 Yes. Yes. And she actually let me see
- 5 her resume, her cover letter and actual documents that
- she put together for a portfolio that you would take 6
- 7 to an interview, because you have to do that as well.
- 8 And I got to look through her documents and kind of
- 9 get a feel of what they're looking for when you're
- going to apply or go into an interview. 10
- Q. Did you ever apply to Conestoga Valley for a 11
- 12 iob?
- 13 I actually gave Deann Buffington this A.
- 14 information, I asked her to look over it, and she made
- 15 the comment, and I cannot remember word for word, but
- that they only take superior teachers, and based on my 16
- 17 performance thus far, that she would not hire me as a
- 18 candidate or even look at me as a candidate.
- 19 Q. Approximately when did that --
- 20 A. That was before midterm.
- 21 O. Okav.
- 22 A. It was right around midterm. And from my
- 23 classroom experience that I was having thus far, it
- would make sense. But it was still really hurtful 24

1 O. Okay.

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2 A. Linda McDowell was a junior block teacher 3 for me.

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- 4 Q. Okay.
 - And I felt that Mr. Girvin had more A. experience than Linda did at that point.
 - MR. KRAMER: Okay. Mark that, because I

have another document.

(Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-19 was marked for identification.)

12

- 13 BY MR. KRAMER: 14 This is the e-mail between you and Reinking --
 - Oh, wait.
- 16 Q. This one. (Indicating.)
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And your response, et cetera. We'll mark that.
- 19 Tell me how this came to be, this document.
- 20 Well, Nicole wrote me and I responded on
- 21 the 10th. But she wrote me concerning the unit and
- 22 what was left and what work needed to be graded and
- 23 deciding that she'll take care of the Hamlet unit,
- 24 which was after Macbeth, and that if I wanted to grade

Page 239

- 1 when she said that to me.
- 2 O. So sometime in March?
- 3 Yeah. This is actually dated March 20th.
- 4 So right around that date.
- 5 Q. Okay. So because of that you never actually
- 6 formally applied to -- did you ever formally apply to
- 7 CV for a job?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 O. At the time you were going to use Reinking as a
- reference? 10
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Were you going to use Girvin as a 12
- 13 reference?
- 14 A. Yes, I actually have -- oh, no, I don't
- 15 actually have Mr. Girvin down there. We were told to
- take -- keep our resume under two pages, which was 16
- 17 very hard for me, but then they were all supposed to
- 18 limit our number of references. And since Nicole saw
- 19 me most of the time in the classroom working, while
- 20
- Girvin didn't, then I chose not to put Girvin down,
- 21 but after some thought I did. On my second resume
- 22 that I sent out to the schools, I actually believe I
- took Linda McDowell off of my resume and put
- 24 Mr. Girvin down on my resume.

- Page 241 1 any more of the Macbeth items that I was supposed to
- 2 let her know. And Barry Girvin just left CV with a
- 3 few items of make-up work, that was the stuff that he
- 4 brought to me, and graded.
- 5 O. Okav.
- 6 A. And that was on Tuesday. I responded to
- 7 her e-mail. I was very considerate. And I also
- 8 wanted to emphasize and say sorry once again for the
- 9 terms we're on, but that I wanted to assure her that
- 10 anything that's being questioned was not about her or
- 11 the students or anything bad about Millersville or
- 12 Conestoga Valley, and I was just trying to make things
- 13 easier than what they were.
- 14 Q. Okay. So you wrote --
- 15 A. On Wednesday, the 10th I wrote this back 16
- 17 Q. In the second paragraph you wrote, quote, I am
- 18 sorry that we had to end on the terms that we are on,
- 19 but I want to assure you that anything being
- 20 questioned wasn't about you, any staff member or any
- 21 other student at CVHS, end quote.
 - A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And is that what you just referred to, you
- 24 wanted her -- you wanted Reinking to know that nothing

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Page 242 on the blog on Snyder-10 was about her, Conestoga

Valley or anybody at Conestoga Valley? 2

Correct. Correct.

4 Q. Okay.

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A. After finding out the previous day that it was concerning the MySpace page and that was what -the straw that broke the camel's back, as everyone said, I wanted to tell her firsthand privately that it had nothing to do with anyone at the school, and I'm

sorry that you felt that way, but that was not the 10 case. I felt it was important to tell her that. 11

MR. KRAMER: Mark that. And give me a second here.

13 14

(Whereupon, Exhibit Snyder-20 was marked for identification.)

17 18 BY MR. KRAMER:

19 Q. Do you think that Buffington threatened somebody

20 at Millersville that Conestoga Valley would stop

accepting Millersville students unless Millersville 21

22 punished you?

23 A. Do I believe that, or did I read that?

Q. Well, do you have any firsthand knowledge of 24

Did Bray ever accuse you of encouraging 1 2 underage drinking?

> 3 In that meeting she said that the picture 4 and the text, if viewed by a student, would be

promoting underage drinking, and then she continued to 5 6 ask me afterwards "Don't you think? Don't you agree?"

Page 244

Page 245

7 Q. And what did you say? 8

Well, I told her I didn't think that a student or a -- I'm sorry, a student or a parent would view the text. I mean, that wasn't -- going into the student teaching experience and having that web page, even before my student teaching experience, it wasn't my goal to have any parent or any student look at the account. So I told her I don't think I was promoting

underage drinking. 15

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. Plus, I was 25 or 26 at the time when that happened. So I definitely didn't think that I was 18 19 promoting anything.

20 Q. Did Wenrich or Girvin ever accuse you of

21 promoting underage drinking?

22 A. No.

23 Q. If you turn to the Complaint, if you have that in there. It's in the very front. 24

Page 243

that?

1

2 I read a document from Buffington saying 3 that.

4 Q. Okay. That's the basis for that statement --

5 A. Yes.

Q. -- what Buffington wrote in her -- in that 6 7 document?

8 Correct.

9 Q. Okay. Did you take out any liability insurance

while you were --10

11 A. No.

Q. Did other student teachers? 12

Student teachers aren't supposed to take 13 out any liability insurance. We can apply for a 14

15 membership with PSEA, Pennsylvania State Teacher's

Association -- Educator's Association. I apologize. 16

17 Q. Right.

18 But the insurance policies that are 19 available are only for teachers.

Q. There's no category called student teacher? 20

21 Not that I know of. A.

22 O. Okav.

23 Not that I'm aware of.

24 Just about done. Give me a second. (Pause.) Q.

1 A. I have it.

Okay. Go to page nine. Paragraph 43, it says

"On or about May 12, Bray, Girvin, Wenrich, and 3

4 Schneller met to discuss Plaintiff's possible

5 expulsion." 6

Were you a part of that meeting?

A. No.

Q. So how do you know they met to discuss your 9 possible expulsion? And if you have no personal knowledge, just tell me. 10

No personal knowledge.

Okay. It then says "Schneller convinced the other three that they had to give Plaintiff some degree to avoid scrutiny from others at MU."

Again, do you have any personal knowledge of that?

A. Yes. Dr. Schneller told me that.

18 O. Okay.

19 Not that she -- well, not in those exact 20 words, but Dr. Schneller said to me that she contacted 21 them, that something -- I had to receive something for

22 all my hard work and dedication over the past four

23 years.

24 Q. Okay.

Page 246 Page 248 Correct. Only sports teams did, and that 1 I actually had Dr. Schneller independently 1 A. as a teacher, and she knows how hard I worked 2 was by --2 3 3 firsthand, and she said that's the reason that she Q. Again. I'm sorry. No, and only sports teams did, and that 4 4 contacted them. 5 was on the basis of each individual coach. 5 Q. Okay. Schneller's involvement was to, as English department chairman, was to sign off on the 6 O. Okay. And that's -- and so the message you put 6 7 on your MySpace was a personal text message? 7 paper to make sure you got a B -- at least got a BA, 8 correct? 8 It was a personal -- it was a personal 9 9 message in a text format. A. Correct. O. I believe that's what -- what does that mean? 10 Q. Did she have any involvement in reviewing all of 10 the documents, including the various evaluations, 11 I'm sorry. 11 including Girvin's and Reinking's notes, and including 12 A. Like it was a personal message typed out. 12 the drunken pirate picture and text? 13 Okay. 13 O. I don't know. 14 A. 14 A. Yeah. Q. Okay. You later took an appeal to the provost? 15 Q. Okay. You're using "text" in a formal term 15 Yes. Prabhu. 16 there? 16 Α. 17 O. Prabhu, right. 17 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Okay. And that was on your private web page? And I have an understanding of what 18 18 happened there. What -- what did, as far as you know, 19 Yes. 19 A. Prabhu consider in terms of his decision, what 20 MR. KRAMER: Okay. I don't have anything 20 21 21 documentation, what testimony, et cetera? else, Mark. 22 All the documentation that Millersville 22 MR. VOIGT: Excellent. 23 had in their possession. 23 24 Q. Okay. 24 (Witness excused.)

1	Page 247		Page 249
1	 So everything that I gave Dr. Bray, 	1	
2	everything that was documented from the conversations	2	(Whereupon, the deposition was concluded
3	with Conestoga Valley to Millersville. All of that	3	at approximately 3:26 p.m.)
4	information. He spoke with myself and he also spoke	4	
5	with Dr. Wenrich and Dr. Bray in the meeting, and he	5	
6	said he would make a determination based off of	6	
7	everything that was said at that meeting and all the	7	}
8	information he had in his possession. But he didn't	8	
9	tell me the exact items he had in his possession.	9	
10	Q. Do you know if Prabhu considered the drunken	10	
11	pirate photo and the text in making his decision?	11	
12	A. Yes. He had it in his possession.	12	
13	Q. But you don't know that he looked at it or	13	
14	considered it?	14	
15	A. No.	15	
16	Q. Okay. I think we're done. Give me a sec.	16	
17	(Pause.)	17	
18	Just one final question. On page 12 of	18	
19	the Complaint, I just want to know if this is true,	19	
20	paragraph 56 says "At the time of the 'Drunken Pirate'	20	
21	incident, MU had no policy, practice or procedure	21	
22	prohibiting students from either posting photos of	22	
23	themselves or personal text messages on their private	23	
124	web pages."	24	

63 (Pages 246 to 249)

STACY SNYDER

1 IN 2	IDEX **	Page 250	1	Page 252 CERTIFICATION
WITNESS: STA	CY SNYDER		2 3	I, Krista L. Schultz, RPR, hereby certify
QUESTIONED E 5 MR. KRAMER	BY: PAGE		5	that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings held in this
6 7	HIBITS		6 7	matter, as transcribed from the stenographic notes taken by me.
8	**		8 9	
10	R DEPOSITION EXHIBITS		10 11	VDICTAL COURT TZ
11	DESCRIPTION MKT ent Teaching Background)	12 13	KRISTA L. SCHULTZ REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTER
12 Informat 13 Snyder-2 Pack 14 Snyder-3 Niccobservat	tion document 45 tet of Academic Major Forms 59 tel Reinking classroom tion notes 118	9	14 15 16	
16 observat 17 Snyder-5 Mid 18 Snyder-6 Mid 19 Snyder-7 PDE 20 Snyder-8 Mid 21 Snyder-9 Fina 22 Snyder-10 Pho	arry Girvin classroom ion sheets 118 -evaluation by Nicole Reinking 13' -evaluation by J. Barry Girvin 140 -430 mid-evaluation 142 -evaluation by Stacy Snyder 149 i evaluation by Nicole Reinking 177 tocopy of photograph and text 177 tocopy of photograph 177	,	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	(This certification does not apply to any reproduction of this transcript, unless under the direct supervision of the certifying reporter.)
1 STACY SNY 2 NUMBER	DER DEPOSITION EXHIBITS DESCRIPTION Unprofessional Behavior/Perfor	MK'D	24	
		16		
5	Document to Dr. Bray	218		
6	5/9/06 e-mail 218 5/10/06 e-mail, apology letter	228		
7	Request of Exception to Gradua			
9 Snyder-18 II 10 Snyder-19 II 11 Snyder-20 5 12 13	irements documents PDE-430 final evaluation Resume and cover letter 5/11/06 e-mail 242	232 240		
15 16 17 18 19 20				
21 22 23				
24				<u> </u>