

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
STATE EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND LICENSURE BOARD**

IN THE MATTER OF THE)
REVOCATION OF THE)
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSE)
OF KEVIN D. LIPKE)
PEL ID # 2011050)

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

The Illinois State Superintendent of Education hereby approves the following charges and incorporates these charges as part of the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing issued to Kevin D. Lipke ("Respondent"), holder of Professional Educator License No. 2011050.

Material Allegations

1. Respondent was principal in the Jamaica Community Unit School District from 2005 to 2008. From 2008 to 2012, Respondent was principal in the Oswego Community Unit School District. From 2012 until his resignation in February 2014, Respondent was superintendent of the Pontiac School District No. 429.

2. Respondent used his position as principal and superintendent to form inappropriate relationships with young male students. Respondent violated professional boundaries and those of healthy adult/child relationships.

3. Respondent formed close relationships with numerous young students. Respondent would pay for students' cell phones, arrange sleepovers at Respondent's home and drive students to and from school. Respondent would frequently Facebook message and text students. At one point, Respondent picked up a student from his home without the student's parents' permission. Respondent would remove students from their classrooms so that he could spend more personal time with the students.

4. When confronted about these inappropriate relationships, Respondent said that he loved one of the students and admitted to kissing the student on the head and rubbing the student's feet before sleep.

5. When the Pontiac School Board questioned Respondent about his close relationship with a student, Respondent lied to them and told them that he was in a romantic relationship with the student's mother.

6. On February 10, 2014, Respondent resigned as Superintendent for the Pontiac School District.

Violations

7. Respondent's conduct as outlined in the material allegations establishes gross unprofessional and immoral behavior that precludes him from continuing to hold an educator license issued by the State of Illinois.

8. Respondent's conduct violated Section 21B-75 of the Illinois School Code [105 ILCS 5/21B-75] which provides that any certificate may be suspended or revoked by the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board upon evidence of child abuse or neglect, immorality or unprofessional conduct.

WHEREFORE, based on the aforesaid violations, the Superintendent recommends that PEL ID #2011050 held by Kevin D. Lipke be revoked.