September 29, 2014

James E. Kellerstrass,

Re: SUSPENSION OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSE (PEL) ID #1840181, EDUCATOR LICENSE WITH STIPULATIONS ELS (PARA) ID #2174510, & TASN APPROVAL

Dear James E. Kellerstrass:

The State Superintendent of Education has suspended your Professional Educator License PEL ID# 1840181, EDUCATOR LICENSE WITH STIPULATIONS ELS (PARA) ID #2174510, and TASN approval pursuant to Section 21B-75 of the School Code. A copy of the Superintendent’s Order is enclosed for your information.

 Regards,

Angela Wartowski
Investigator

Enclosure: Order

cc: Kellee Sullivan (via email)
    Reg. Supt. Dave Demler, Fulton, Schuyler Co. ROE (via email)
    Reg. Supt. Bonnie Harris, Knox Co. ROE (via email)
    Reg. Supt. Phyllis Glazier, Marshall, Putnam, & Woodford Co. ROE (via email)
    Reg. Supt. Elizabeth A. Derry, Peoria Co. ROE (via email)
IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OF
THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSE
OF JAMES E. KELLERSTRASS
(PEL ID #1840181, EDUCATOR LICENSE WITH STIPULATIONS ELS (PARA))
ID #2174510, & TASN APPROVAL

ORDER
THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, being charged with the authority and responsibility for suspending licenses to teach in the State of Illinois, finds and orders as follows:

WHEREAS on August 28, 2014, a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing and Statement of Charges was issued to JAMES E. KELLERSTRASS, the provisions of which are hereby incorporated into this Order, recommending that his Professional Educator License, Educator License with Stipulations, and TASN Approval be suspended for a period of two (2) years for unprofessional and immoral conduct in violation of Section 21B-75 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/21B-75);

WHEREAS Section 21B-75 of the School Code states that “if the State Superintendent of Education does not receive from an individual a request for a hearing within 10 days after the individual receives notice, the suspension or revocation shall immediately take effect in accordance with the notice;”

WHEREAS THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION did not receive from JAMES E. KELLERSTRASS a request for hearing within 10 days of KELLERSTRASS’ receipt of the Notice of Opportunity for Hearing and Statement of Charges;

WHEREAS, JAMES E. KELLERSTRASS’s failure to timely request a hearing results in the sanction recommended by the State Superintendent being imposed as a matter of law;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT Professional Educator License PEL ID #1840181, Educator License with Stipulations ELS(PARA) ID # 2174510 and TASN Approval of Licensee be hereby suspended for a period of two (2) years, with ten (10) hours of professional development and ten (10) hours of counseling in the areas of professional boundaries and stress management, effective as of the date of this Order.

This is a final administrative determination and is subject to review pursuant to provisions of the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.) and 105 ILCS 5/21B-90.

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D
State Superintendent of Education

Dated at Springfield, Illinois,
this 24th day of September, 2014.
PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I served the foregoing Order by depositing copies thereof in the United States Mail, via certified mail, postage prepaid, on September 29, 2014, addressed to the following at the address shown:

James E. Kellerstrass

I further certify that I served the foregoing referenced documents via electronic mail, on September 29, 2014, on the following at the addresses shown:

Kellee Sullivan, Secretary
State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board
100 North 1st Street
Springfield IL 62777
ksulliva@isbe.net

Regional Superintendent Dave Demler
Fulton & Schuyler Counties ROE
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Regional Superintendent Bonnie Harris
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