

<b>MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM:</b> CONSIDERATION TO DISCIPLINE THE LICENSE TO TEACH OF STEVEN KUNTZ, CASE # HR 14-012	<b>February 2015</b>
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<b>STATUTORY AUTHORITY:</b>  Section 168.071, RSMo	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent Item <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Item <input type="checkbox"/> Report Item
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**DEPARTMENT GOAL NO. 3:**

Missouri will prepare, develop, and support effective educators.

**SUMMARY:**

Steven Kuntz, Respondent, holds a professional certificate of license to teach which expires on June 25, 2016. He also held a substitute certificate which expired on October 1, 2014.

In 2013, Respondent engaged in email communication with a minor female student of a personal nature. After being investigated by one school district, he was hired by a second school district as a high school teacher. The second school district was made aware of the investigation by the first school district. District administrators told Respondent that he was to abide by district policy regarding staff-student relationships and that he was not to contact the student again. Within a couple of months, Respondent reconnected with the student via Craigslist and using aliases. Upon learning of this, the student’s mother contacted the first district who then contacted the second district providing the second district with numerous e-mails between Respondent and the girl. Respondent was placed on leave and then resigned.

Respondent received notice of the hearing, but was neither present nor represented by counsel.

**PRESENTER(S):**

Department Legal Counsel will participate in the presentation and discussion of this agenda item.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education revoke Respondent’s certification or any claim of certification pursuant to its authority under Mo. Rev. Stat. § 168.071 (Supp. 2014).