



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908
(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdca.wa.gov

January 20, 2022

Sent electronically to John Cerna at jcerna@toppenish.wednet.edu

Subject: Initial Hearing (Case Status Review) After Opening a Formal Investigation,
Toppenish School District Officials, PDC Case 100637

Dear John Cerna, Superintendent, Toppenish School District:

After conducting a preliminary review and assessment of the complaint filed by Neeland Pendlebury against Toppenish School District Officials, PDC staff opened a formal investigation and held an Initial Hearing (Case Status Review) on January 20, 2022, pursuant to RCW 42.17A.755, and WACs 390-37-060 and 390-37-071.

At the hearing it was noted RCW 42.17A.755 provides PDC staff with additional tools to resolve complaints alleging non-compliance, including resolving alleged violations by agreement through stipulation or statement of understanding, or an agreement to stay enforcement pending satisfaction of conditions of deferred enforcement, and I am encouraging you to work with staff on resolving this matter.

As noted during the Initial Hearing, the complaint has been posted on the PDC's website under Toppenish School District, Case 100637, but we have not received a response from the District addressing the alleged violations. Although not required, if a response is received, it will also be posted on the PDC's website.

I urge Respondent to continue to work with PDC staff toward any appropriate resolution short of formal adjudication, if possible.

If you have questions, please contact Phil Stutzman, Compliance Officer, at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov or by phone at 360-664-8853.

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed Peter Frey Lavallee

Peter Frey Lavallee
Executive Director