

Notes on concern involving Eric Smedsrud, Music Teacher at MVHS.

This matter was brought to my attention, Matt Johnson, on September 2nd, 2015 by Sam Ormson another music teacher here at MVHS.

Associate Principals Gary Price, Sheri Walker, Rashonda Waters, and Dean of Students Tim Fox are aware of these concerns as well.

Reason for Concern:

Sam Ormson informed me prior to the start of school on September the 2nd that he had some concerns regarding Eric Smedsrud. Sam informed me that Eric was currently having marital issues. He stated that this had been going on for a couple months. Things had started unraveling in Eric's marriage recently with his wife moving out of their home. This correlates with a conversation that Eric had with our Associate Principal Gary Price where Eric stated he was having medical problems and then disclosed the potential cause was stress from marital issues. This personal issue of Eric is not just confined to outside our school as his son Jake does attend MV. Additionally, Sam and Eric along with their wives are close friends outside of school along with being teaching partners. So this may have a significant impact on our school staff and students.

Eric's marital trouble alone is not reason enough to reach out to HR as this is not uncommon in a large school and district. However, Sam's concern is a speculation that some of Eric's action could be related somehow to a relationship with a former MVHS student, 1a graduated in June, was heavily involved in the band as a Drum major and was a friend of Eric's son, 1a 1a had been the subject of an incident at the state band competition in the spring as outlined in another document. 1a as a friend of Eric's son, had been to his home also on a few occasions. Sam told me that Eric had stated he thought of 1a "more like a daughter" when he questioned Eric's view of his relationship with her.

The reason for Sam's visit to my office was that on the same day he was informed that Eric's wife moved out of their home into a rental, 1a announced to her family and friends that she was not going to attend Central Washington University as she planned but was going to attend Clark College instead. Sam expressed a concern there was some real concern these decisions were connected somehow. He just wanted to bring the school in the loop to protect all parties including students and Eric.

At this point, all concerns are speculative and unsubstantiated. But the concern of the school is there may be some sort of connection between the events of Eric's marriage and the actions of the former student 1a

I will admit, given the recent events at Evergreen High School the past school year involving illegal relationships between teachers and students, we are hypersensitive of these issues. So after reflecting on all the information at this point we do recognize all of our speculation lacks real evidence to move forward. So as a school we decided it was best to inform HR of our concerns pending any further information, monitor the situation further, and follow any direction by our HR department.

One additional note of importance is that after this meeting with Sam our school played its first football game of the 2015 season on September 5th, 2015 at the University of Washington Husky stadium. The band accompanied the football team chaperoned by both Sam Ormson and Eric Smedsrud. During the

game in which the band played there was a very severe storm. This led to a 2 hour lightning delay during which all attending had to wait in the concourse of the stadium. The band congregated together with other fans. During this time Sam Ormson informed myself, Gary Price, and Sheri Walker (Building Administrators) that 1a [REDACTED] was in attendance and speaking with Eric Smedsrud. At the end of the lightning delay and play resumed with the band returning to their seats, I personally witnessed Eric hug 1a [REDACTED] as he returned to his seat in the concourse area and she left the concourse with another male companion. I happened to be walking by at the time to see this and felt this was an interesting coincidence given the concern shared with me. It was after this event that Roland Brosius met with Eric in regards to the state band incident, I am not sure he directly questioned the relationship between Eric and 1a [REDACTED]