

**DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF THE
ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS**

BETWEEN:

ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS

and

RITA ESEVOGHO EDENIYERE, OCT

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE OF THE ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS, pursuant to section 26, subsection (5) of the *Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996* (the "*Act*"), Statutes of Ontario, 1996, chapter 12, has directed that the matter hereinafter described regarding the conduct or actions of Rita Esevogho Edeniye, Certificate No.461160 be referred to the Discipline Committee of the Ontario College of Teachers.

IT IS ALLEGED that Rita Esevogho Edeniye is guilty of professional misconduct and/or is incompetent as defined in the *Act* in that:

- (a) she failed to maintain the standards of the profession, contrary to Ontario Regulation 437/97, subsection 1(5);
- (b) she released or disclosed information about a student to a person other than the student or, if the student is a minor, the student's parent or guardian, contrary to Ontario Regulation 437/97, subsection 1(6);

- (c) she failed to supervise adequately a person who is under the professional supervision of the member, contrary to Ontario Regulation 437/97, subsection 1(11);
- (d) she committed acts that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional, contrary to Ontario Regulation 437/97, subsection 1(18);
- (e) she displayed a lack of knowledge, skill or judgment and/or disregard for the welfare of her students of a nature or extent that demonstrates that the member is unfit to carry out her professional responsibilities or that the member's certificate should be made subject to terms, conditions or limitations.

PARTICULARS OF THESE ALLEGATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Rita Esevogho Edeniye (the "Member") is a member of the Ontario College of Teachers.
2. At all material times, the Member was employed by the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (the "Board") as an occasional teacher at [XXX] School ("School 1") in Caledon, Ontario, and as an occasional teacher at [XXX] School ("School 2") in Brampton, Ontario.

Conduct at School 1

3. Between approximately February and April 2023, the Member taught three Grade [XXX] [XXX] classes at School 1.
4. In the 2022/2023 academic year, Student 1 was a Grade [XXX] male student in the Member's [XXX] class.
5. Between approximately February and April 2023, the Member told students, on one or more occasions, that it was shameful to express their concerns about her to the administration.

6. In or about March and/or April 2023, on one or more occasions, the Member:
 - (a) used her personal telephone during instructional time;
 - (b) left students unattended while using her personal telephone in the hallway.
7. On or about March 21, 2023 and/or March 23, 2023 the Member arrived late to class, leaving her students unattended for a period of time.
8. On or about March 22, 2023, the Member:
 - (a) did not permit Student 1, a student with diabetes, to eat in the classroom;
 - (b) in response to Student 1's explanation of his condition, told him that she did not care and to go eat elsewhere.
9. In or about March and/or April 2023, the Member made the following comments to Grade [XXX] students, or words to the effect of:
 - (a) "It's because I'm Black that you're disrespecting me, right? It's the colour of my skin, isn't it?" in response to students reporting concerns about her to the administration;
 - (b) accused students of being "liars" and/or reporting "lies" as a result of them expressing concerns to the administration about her;
 - (c) asked students "How could you do that to me?";
 - (d) told students their parents would be called should they continue to lie;
 - (e) told students she would "sue" anybody who complained about her to the administration.

10. On or about March 24, 2023, in relation to Grade [XXX] students asking to use the washroom during class, the Member:
 - (a) refused to allow them to do so until the end of the class even when they expressed urgency;
 - (b) told students to “pee on the floor”;
 - (c) asked students to write their parents’ phone number on a piece of paper when they asked to use the washroom.

11. On or about April 19, 2023, in front of other students in the class, the Member stated to four Grade [XXX] male students, words to the effect of, “Where is the bomb? Where did you plant it? I want to be safe” which the students perceived to be racially motivated based on their ethnic backgrounds.

12. On or about April 20, 2023, as the Member was leaving the administration office, she stated to the four students who were there reporting her bomb comment, “I didn’t say anything. You’re lying. You’re trying to get me in trouble” or words to that effect.

13. Between approximately February and April 2023, the Member did not provide adequate instruction in her Grade [XXX] [XXX] courses by:
 - (a) not teaching lessons;
 - (b) failing to provide clear instructions on assignments and resources to complete them;
 - (c) taking inaccurate attendance, after class had started;
 - (d) failing to return assignments or tests to students;

- (e) failing to provide feedback regarding the students' learning;
- (f) providing students in different class levels with the same course material.

Conduct at School 2

14. Between approximately October and November 2023, the Member taught two Grade [XXX] [XXX] classes and one Grade [XXX] [XXX] class.
15. At all material times, Student 2 was a female student in Grade [XXX] in the Member's [XXX] class.
16. At all material times, Student 3 and Student 4 were Grade [XXX] male students in the Member's class.
17. At all material times, Student 5, Student 6, Student 7 and Student 8 were Grade [XXX] female students in the Member's [XXX] class.
18. On or about October 13, 2023, the Member disclosed private information about Student 2 to another student in the class by telling him that Student 2 had a "condition" or words to that effect.
19. Between approximately October 16 and November 17, 2023, on one or more occasions, the Member marked Student 3 and Student 4 present when they were absent for the duration of the period.
20. Between approximately October and November 2023, on one or more occasions, the Member used her personal telephone during instructional time.
21. Between approximately October and November 2023, the Member instructed Student 6 and Student 8 to staple learning materials and organize the Member's class folders.

22. Between approximately October and November 2023, on one or more occasions, the Member asked Student 5, Student 6 and Student 7 if they had made complaints to the school administration about her.

23. Between approximately October and November 2023, in relation to assigning marks to students, the Member:
 - (a) offered to increase Student 6's grade and asked Student 6's parent not to tell anybody about their conversation in which she made this offer;

 - (b) offered to increase Student 5's grade and told her "don't tell [the administration] anything more. Just tell them that I helped raise your mark" or words to that effect;

 - (c) told Student 7 not to tell anybody about their discussion in relation to the Member increasing Student 7's mark after receiving her assignments.

24. Between approximately October and November 2023, the Member did not provide adequate instruction in her Grade [XXX] [XXX] courses by:
 - (a) failing to provide clear instructions on assignments;

 - (b) failing to return assignments or tests to students;

 - (c) failing to provide feedback regarding the students' learning;

 - (d) on one or more occasions, failing to print enough copies of:
 - (i) the learning material, leaving students without physical copies;

 - (ii) tests, leaving students to write in their notebooks.

THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A HEARING pursuant to sections 30, 32 and 32.1 of the *Act* to decide whether the allegations are true and whether Rita Esevogho Edeniye is guilty of professional misconduct and/or is incompetent. A copy of the *Rules of Procedure of the Discipline Committee and of the Fitness to Practise Committee* (the “*Rules of Procedure*”) will be provided upon request and is also available on the College’s website.

THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE WILL HEAR THIS MATTER on a date to be determined after consultation between College Counsel and you or your counsel and fixed by the Tribunals’ Office.

YOU ARE ENTITLED TO BE PRESENT AT THE HEARING AND TO BE REPRESENTED BY LEGAL COUNSEL. The hearing will be held electronically using audio or video conferencing equipment, pursuant to the *Rules of Procedure* and the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.S.22 (the “*SPPA*”).

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND ON THE SCHEDULED HEARING DATE, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE MAY PROCEED WITH THE HEARING IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE PROVIDED WITH ANY FURTHER NOTICE OF PROCEEDINGS.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT AN ELECTRONIC HEARING OR ELECTRONIC SET DATE HEARING IS LIKELY TO CAUSE YOU SIGNIFICANT PREJUDICE, you must notify the Tribunals’ Office at 101 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 0A1. The Discipline Committee will then determine whether the hearing will proceed in person, electronically, in writing, or by a combination of these formats.

IF A DATE FOR THE HEARING AND/OR THE FORMAT OF THE HEARING ARE NOT AGREED UPON, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE WILL CONVENE TO DEAL WITH THE PROCEDURAL MATTER OF SETTING A DATE AND/OR ESTABLISHING THE FORMAT FOR THE HEARING. The procedural hearing will be held electronically using audio or video conferencing equipment, pursuant to the *Rules of Procedure* and the *SPPA*.

YOU ARE ENTITLED TO BE PRESENT WHEN THE COMMITTEE CONVENES TO SET A DATE AND/OR FORMAT FOR THE HEARING AND TO BE REPRESENTED BY LEGAL COUNSEL. IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND BEFORE THE COMMITTEE TO SET A DATE AND/OR FORMAT FOR THE HEARING, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE TO SET THE DATE AND/OR FORMAT. NOTICE OF THE HEARING DATE AND/OR FORMAT SET BY THE COMMITTEE WILL BE PROVIDED TO YOU IN WRITING AT YOUR LAST KNOWN EMAIL ADDRESS AS SHOWN IN THE RECORDS OF THE COLLEGE.

IF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE FINDS YOU GUILTY of professional misconduct and/or to be incompetent, you are liable to the penalties set out in section 30 of the *Act*.

A MEMBER whose conduct is being investigated in proceedings before the Discipline Committee may examine before the hearing any written or documentary evidence that will be produced or any report, the contents of which will be given as evidence at the hearing.

You or your representative may contact the office of Christine Lonsdale of McCarthy Tétrault LLP, College Counsel in this matter, at Suite 5300, Toronto Dominion Bank Tower, Toronto, ON M5K 1E6, telephone 416-601-8019.

Date: March 13, 2026

Registrar's Signature

Linda Lacroix, OCT, M. Ed.
Registrar and Chief Executive Officer
Ontario College of Teachers
101 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON M5S 0A1

TO: Rita Esevogho Edeniyere
[XXX][XXX]

AND TO: Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association
65 St. Clair Avenue East, Suite 400
Toronto, ON M4T 2Y8

Jessica Page Filgiano, Counsel for the Member

B E T W E E N :

ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS

- and -

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