

- 1 2. On November 21, 2017, the Commission received a report from the Department of
2 Human Services (DHS) alleging Potts was having an inappropriate sexual
3 relationship with a minor. On December 7, 2017, the Commission received a report
4 from the TRSD alleging Potts was under law enforcement investigation for possible
5 criminal conduct for an alleged romantic relationship with a student. DHS, working
6 in conjunction with law enforcement, reported that on October 29, 2017, while on a
7 multiple-overnight school sponsored field trip to Bend, Oregon, Potts and a sixteen
8 year-old female student, engaged in consensual oral sex in Potts' hotel room.
- 9
- 10 3. On March 7, 2018, the Grand Jury for Deschutes County indicted Potts on four
11 felony counts of Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree (ORS 163.425). On July 5, 2018,
12 by plea agreement, Potts was convicted of one felony count of Sexual Abuse in the
13 Second Degree (ORS 163.425). Potts was sentenced on July 5, 2018 to supervised
14 probation for sixty months and required to register as a sex offender, which he did
15 on July 5, 2018.
- 16

17 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

18 Lawrence Pott's criminal convictions constitute gross neglect of duty in violation
19 of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-
20 0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); and OAR 584-020-0040(1) (*The Commission*
21 *will deny, revoke or deny the right to apply for a license or charter school registration*
22 *to any applicant or educator who, has been convicted of any of the crimes listed in ORS*
23 *342.143, or the substantial equivalent of any of those crimes if convicted in another*
24 *jurisdiction*), including ORS 163.425 – *Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree*. This
25 conduct also constitutes gross unfitness in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-
26 020-0040(5)(c) (*Conviction of violating any federal, state, or local law. A conviction*
27 *includes any final judgment of conviction by a court whether as the result of guilty*
28 *plea, no contest plea or any other means*); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(d) (*Commission of*
29 *an act listed in OAR 584-020-0040(1)*); and OAR 584-020-0040(5)(e) (*Admission of or*
30 *engaging in acts constituting criminal conduct, even in the absence of a conviction*).

31

1 Pursuant to ORS 342.175(3) and OAR 584-020-0040(1) the Teacher Standards
2 and Practices Commission must revoke Potts' license and / or Potts' right to apply for a
3 license based on conviction of any of the crimes listed in ORS 342.143(3)(a), or the
4 substantial equivalent of any of those crimes, or convicted of attempt to commit such
5 crimes as defined in ORS 161.405.

6
7 Furthermore, the conduct underlying Potts' convictions constitutes gross neglect
8 of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates
9 OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(f) (*Any*
10 *sexual conduct with a student*) as defined by OAR 584-020-0005(5); OAR 584-020-
11 0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate*
12 *adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times*); and OAR
13 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying*
14 *the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty*). Additionally, Pott's criminal
15 convictions and conduct related to his convictions constitute "gross unfitness" in
16 violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(3)(c) and (d) as defined by OAR
17 584-020-0040 (5) (*Gross unfitness is any conduct which renders an educator*
18 *unqualified to perform his or her professional responsibilities*).


19
20 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
21 ORS 342.175.

22 **FINAL ORDER**

23 The Commission hereby revokes Lawrence S. Potts' Oregon educator license and
24 revokes his right to apply for an Oregon educator license.

25 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 13th day of June, 2019.

26 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

27
28 By: 
29 Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director
30

NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.