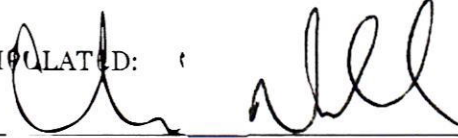




1 attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of  
2 the Stipulated Final Order below.

3 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 4 1. The Commission has licensed Newell since July 7, 2004. Newell holds a  
5 Professional Teaching License, with an endorsement in Special Education-  
6 Generalist (PK-12), valid from July 7, 2018 through July 6, 2023. During all  
7 relevant times, Newell was employed by the Springfield School District (SSD).  
8
- 9 2. On December 11, 2017, the Commission received a School District Misconduct  
10 Report from SSD indicating Newell may have committed an act of gross neglect  
11 of duty and/or gross unfitness. Specifically, that Newell had forged signatures on  
12 IEP paperwork.  
13
- 14 3. Investigation determined Newell forged other educators' signatures on five  
15 students' IEP paperwork from September 5, 2017 through October 10, 2017, in  
16 violation of district policy and IEP rules. Newell was forthright and honest about  
17 his actions, explaining that due to changes in Newell's responsibilities, he had  
18 regrettably cut corners to meet deadlines. A review of the building's process was  
19 conducted and improvements have been made to prevent future issues. SSD  
20 determined Newell's conduct violated SPED rules and district policy and  
21 disciplined Newell locally. Review of Newell's performance since the misconduct  
22 indicates significant improvement and no continuing issues.  
23

24  
25 IT IS SO STIPULATED: 

26 \_\_\_\_\_ Date 3/22/19  
27 Christopher A. Newell  
28   
29 \_\_\_\_\_ Date 4/8/2019  
30 Trent Danowski, Deputy Director  
31 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

32  
33 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

34 The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS  
35 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use

1 professional judgment), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(c) (Using and maintaining student  
2 records as required by federal and state law and district policies and procedures), OAR  
3 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations); and  
4 OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c) (Falsification of any document or knowing misrepresentation  
5 directly related to licensure, employment, or professional duties).

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7 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon  
8 ORS 342.175.

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**ORDER**

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The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and  
conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on Christopher A.  
Newell's Oregon educator license.

Issued and dated this 19 day of June, 2019.

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**TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION  
STATE OF OREGON**

By  \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director