

BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of the)	STIPULATION OF FACTS
Educator License of)	FINAL ORDER OF REVOCATION
OLIVER T. BROWN)	AND REVOCATION OF RIGHT
)	TO APPLY

On May 20, 2019, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received information from the Oregon Department of Human Services indicating Oliver T. Brown (Brown) may have committed acts of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness, specifically, that Brown allegedly engaged in inappropriate teacher/student boundaries and an inappropriate relationship with a student. On May 20, 2019, the Commission also received a report from the Beaverton School District (District) indicating Brown may have committed acts of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness, specifically, that Brown allegedly engaged in inappropriate teacher/student boundaries and misuse of district technology during work hours.

After review of the matters alleged, Brown and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts, revocation of Brown's Oregon educator license, and revocation of Brown's right to apply for an Oregon educator license.

This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the sanction to be imposed. Brown stipulates that there are sufficient evidence contained in the Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Brown waives the right to a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.

By signing below, Brown acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Revocation and Revocation of Right to Apply (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Brown nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and

consents to issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promise or representation has been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below.

STIPULATION OF FACT

1. Oliver T. Brown has been licensed by the Commission since July 22, 2014. Brown held a Preliminary Teaching License, with an endorsement in Social Studies (PK-12), valid from March 29, 2018, through April 11, 2021. During all relevant times, Brown was employed by the Beaverton School District.
2. On May 20, 2019, the Commission received information from Oregon's Department of Human Services indicating Brown may have committed acts which constitute gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness. The information alleged Brown engaged in inappropriate teacher/student boundaries and an inappropriate relationship with a seventeen (17) year-old female student. On May 20, 2019, the Commission also received a misconduct report from the Beaverton School District reporting Brown may have committed acts which constitute gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness. The District alleged Brown engaged in inappropriate boundaries with a student and that Brown engaged in online gambling using district-owned technology during his work hours.
3. Investigation found Brown first met AW, a freshman student at Merlo Station High School, Beaverton School District, at the start of the 2015-2016 school year when AW was a student in a social studies class taught by Brown. During the 2018-2019 school year, Brown was AW's social studies teacher and advisor. Beginning in AW's freshman year and until her junior year, Brown and AW were Facebook friends. District records show Brown communicated with AW by email during the 2017-2018 school year through AW's graduation in March 2019. Many of the emails contained non-school related information that had inappropriate content for a teacher and student or was personal in nature. During Brown's District and Commission interviews, Brown admitted to communicating with AW by telephone and text. In March 2019, Brown admitted to receiving a text from AW regarding a medical issue she had. Some of the emails and texts, and the friending on

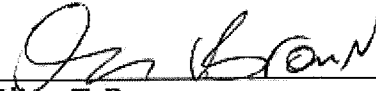
Facebook were in violation of the District's policies on electronic communication and staff/student boundaries.

Investigation found that Brown frequently met with AW off-campus to discuss AW's academic program during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years. On several occasions in the spring of 2018, Brown drove AW to school in his personal automobile. This was done without permission from the school. In March 2018, Brown drove AW and her friend in his personal automobile to a Planned Parenthood facility in Beaverton for a medical test. Brown waited at the facility and then returned AW and her friend to AW's home. This was done without permission from the school or AW's parents. In the spring of 2018, Brown and AW met at a local park, went on a hike and then Brown drove AW home in his personal automobile. Transporting a student or students without prior approval was a violation of District policy. On April 14, 2019, after AW had graduated, Brown and AW were seen by a school staff member in Astoria. Brown met with AW, who resided in Astoria with her father at the time, at a coffee shop to drop off scholarship materials. AW attempted to contact her father for a ride to AW mother's residence Beaverton. AW was unable to contact her father and instead Brown drove AW to her mother's residence.

4. Investigation found that on March 1, March 6, May 3 and May 9, 2019, Brown utilized his District issued laptop computer for the purpose of gambling. On the days mentioned above, Brown accessed information on racehorses and placed bets on horse races utilizing his District issued laptop over the District's network. The gambling activity was done during Brown's preparation periods and during his scheduled teaching times.
5. Investigation found that on May 20, 2019, Brown was notified by the district he was being placed on administrative leave while the district continued investigating concerns about Brown's conduct. An administrator allowed Brown to take his District issued laptop home to work on lesson plans and Brown was instructed to return the laptop to the school by May 22, 2019. Having failed to return the laptop as instructed, Brown was contacted again by the administrator on June 5, 2019, and instructed to return the laptop by June 7, 2019. Brown failed to return the laptop as instructed and in June 2019, Brown reimbursed the District for the laptop.

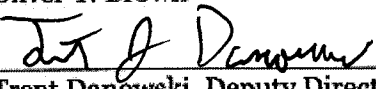
6. Investigation found that on May 21, 2019, law enforcement was contacted and opened an investigation into possible criminal behavior by Brown in regards to his relationship with AW. On June 3, 2019, the Commission sent Brown a letter by Certified and First Class Mail notifying him that he was under investigation. Brown acknowledged receipt of the Certified Mail from Commission by return receipt in mid-June 2019. On June 19, 2019, law enforcement suspended their investigation pending additional information. On July 30, 2020, Brown swore that his two (2) applications submitted to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC), one application for an emergency license and the other for a single subject license, were true and correct. As part of the application, there were several background questions. Brown answered "No" to the question, "Have you ever been dismissed, non-re-elected, suspended without pay for more than ten days, retired, resigned from, or otherwise left school because of allegations of misconduct or while allegations of misconduct were pending?"

IT IS SO STIPULATED:



Oliver T. Brown

1-10-2022
Date



Trent Danowski, Deputy Director
Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

01/11/2022
Date

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Oliver T. Brown's conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(a) (*Substantial unauthorized use of: school name or financial credit; school materials and equipment for personal business; or school personnel to provide personal services unrelated to school business*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(b) (*Substantial unauthorized use of employment time or school resources for private purposes*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c) (*Falsification of any document or knowing misrepresentation directly related to licensure, employment or professional duties*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(1) (*Recognize the worth and dignity of all persons and respect for each individual*), OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(b) (*Using and maintaining district property, equipment, and materials appropriately*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(b) (*Refrain*

from exploiting professional relationships with any student for personal gain, or in support of persons or issues), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A) (Not demonstrating or expressing professionally inappropriate interest in a student's personal life), and OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times).

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

FINAL ORDER

The Commission hereby revokes Oliver T. Brown's Oregon educator license and revokes his right to apply for an Oregon educator license.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 7 day of February, 2022.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 

Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director

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.

