

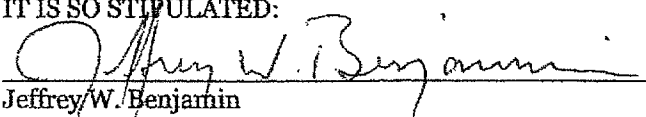
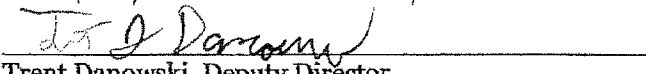
1 attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully advised with
2 regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior
3 to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated
4 Final Order below.

5 6 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 7 1. The Commission has licensed Benjamin since March 13, 2017. Benjamin holds a
8 Professional Teaching License, with an endorsement in English Language Arts
9 (PK-12), Foundational English Language Arts (PK-12) and Social Studies (PK-12),
10 valid from March 14, 2018, through April 7, 2023. During all relevant times,
11 Benjamin was employed by the Santiam Canyon School District (SCSD).
12
- 13 2. On October 10, 2019, the Commission received a report from the SCSD indicating
14 Benjamin may have committed an act which constitutes gross neglect of duty.
15 The District reported while on a school sponsored trip to Ashland, Oregon,
16 Benjamin consumed alcohol prior to supervising students at a school sponsored
17 activity and then transported students to their hotel at the conclusion of the
18 activity.
19
- 20 3. Investigation determined that September 14-16, 2019, Benjamin and several other
21 District staff chaperoned students on a school sponsored trip to Ashland, Oregon.
22 This was Benjamin's first field trip with district. On September 15, 2019, at
23 approximately 4:00 PM, Benjamin met with another chaperone at a restaurant, and
24 Benjamin consumed a beer. At Approximately 5:00 PM, Benjamin joined several
25 other chaperones for dinner at the restaurant and Benjamin consumed another beer
26 with his meal. At approximately 6:00 PM, one of the chaperones ordered and paid for
27 an alcoholic dessert beverage for all the chaperones. Being collegial, Benjamin
28 consumed the dessert beverage. At approximately 7:50 PM, Benjamin and the other
29 chaperones arrived at the activity to supervise the students already present at the
30 venue. At approximately 10:45 PM, upon conclusion of the activity, Benjamin and
31 several other chaperones drove students back to the hotel in District provided
32 vehicles. There were no reports or complaints that Benjamin appeared impaired or
33 unable to supervise students that evening.
34

1 4. The district investigated the matter and issued Benjamin a Letter of Directive. The
2 district retained Benjamin in part because this was the first issue in Benjamin's career
3 of over twenty-five (25) years and experienced chaperones on the trip failed to lead by
4 example. Benjamin has continued working for the district with no issues.

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6 ///

7 IT IS SO STIPULATED:
8  8/20/2021
9 Jeffrey W. Benjamin Date
10  8/20/2021
11 Trent Danowski, Deputy Director Date
12 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
13
14

15
16 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

17 The conduct described section three (3) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in
18 violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-
19 020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*) and OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district*
20 *lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*).

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

24
25 **ORDER**

26 The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
27 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a thirty (30) day suspension upon Jeffrey
28 W. Benjamin's Oregon educator license. In consideration of the Commission's
29 deferment of the adoption of this stipulation originally scheduled for August 9, 2021, the
30 suspension is deemed to have commenced on August 9, 2021, and ends on September 7,
31 2021. Benjamin will therefore be eligible for reinstatement of TSPC licensure effective
32 September 8, 2021.

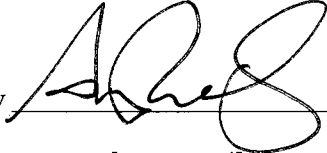
33 Furthermore, Benjamin is subject to the following conditions prior to
34 reinstatement of his Oregon educator license:

- 35 1. Benjamin shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical
36 Performance of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter
37 584, Division 020.

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Issued and dated this 30 day of August, 2021.

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

By  _____

Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director