

1 2. On November 27, 2019, the Commission received a report from ESS West, a
2 substitute teacher contracting agency. According to the report, Wade was working as
3 a substitute teacher on a long-term assignment at the Tualatin High School, a school
4 in the TTSD. According to TTSD, students brought concerns about Wade's behavior
5 towards two students, HF and GT, to a school counselor. The counselor forwarded
6 the information to administration. The student reports alleged that Wade made HF
7 and GT uncomfortable by having inappropriate conversations with them and
8 showing them favoritism in the classroom. Witnesses reported that Wade would ask
9 about HF and GT's dating life, ask to see pictures of them from school dances and
10 vacations, and would show them pictures of trips Wade had taken with friends.
11 Students report that Wade would single out HF and GT, by calling on them
12 frequently in class, and approach/talk with them frequently, including when they
13 were in other classes. Additionally, it was reported that Wade required GT to
14 complete a makeup test in his classroom instead of the counselor's office, and there
15 were no other students present when the test was given. It was also reported that
16 Wade would frequently call on HF first in class and gave her a prize (a cookie) when
17 she won a game in class. It was reported that prizes had never previously been
18 handed out in Wade's class. It was also alleged that Wade asked HF where she
19 worked. This behavior was witnessed by approximately nine students that were
20 interviewed by the district during their investigation. Based on the district's findings,
21 Wade was dismissed from ESS, and was forbidden from ever substituting in the
22 TTSD again.

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24 3. On August 28, 2020, Wade was interviewed by TSPC investigative staff. During the
25 interview, Wade indicated that he tried to be a "relatable" teacher and stated that
26 anything that had been reported was done nefariously. Wade explained that any
27 conversations he had with students about dating or asking to see pictures was in the
28 context of trying to relate to the students. Wade denied that the requests to see
29 photos was done to see students in their swimsuits and stated that any personal
30 conversations he had had with students was not done with romantic or sexual
31 interest. Wade also stated he didn't believe requiring students to test in his
32 classroom was an unusual practice and reported he had done this as a matter of

1 “testing security and integrity.” Wade stated that during the test, his classroom door
2 was always open. Wade reported that HF had confided in him that she felt she was in
3 the wrong math class, and because of this, he singled her out in an effort to make her
4 feel more comfortable. Wade admitted to asking where she worked but indicated
5 that you had done so because he was curious if her work schedule was the reason she
6 was frequently late for class. Wade denied that he asked this as an effort to make
7 contact with her outside of class. Wade stated that he feels most of what was
8 reported was taken the wrong way but stated that if multiple students expressed
9 discomfort then he was in the wrong.
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11 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

12 The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
13 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-
14 0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*); OAR 584-
15 020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(b) (*Refrain from*
16 *exploiting professional relationships with any student for personal gain, or in*
17 *support of persons or issues*), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A) (*Not demonstrating or*
18 *expressing professionally inappropriate interest in a student's personal life*), and
19 OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with*
20 *students in conduct and conversations at all times*).
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23 The Commission’s authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
24 342.175.


25 **FINAL ORDER**

26 The Commission hereby issues a public reprimand upon Benjamin E. Wade’s Oregon
27 educator license.
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1 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 27th day of January, 2022.

2 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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4 By: 
5 Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director

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NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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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.