

1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON
3

4 In the Matter of the Educator) DEFAULT ORDER OF
5 License of) SUSPENSION AND PROBATION
6 LONNIE D. WOLFE)
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9 On June 23, 2021 the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission)
10 issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Lonnie D. Wolfe (Wolfe) in which the
11 Commission charged him with Gross Neglect of Duty. The Notice was sent via U.S. First
12 Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7019 2970 0000 4903 8683 to the address on file
13 with the Commission. The Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes
14 of proving a prima facie case. The Certified Mail receipt was returned to the Commission
15 signed. The first class mail was not returned to the Commission and assumed delivered. The
16 Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated September 24, 2021, and signed by Anthony
17 Rosilez, Executive Director, stated:

18 “IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY
19 PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED
20 UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR
21 REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING, WITHDRAW
22 YOUR REQUEST FOR HEARING, IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, OR
23 NOTIFY THE COMMISSION THAT YOU WILL NOT APPEAR AT HEARING, THE
24 COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE
25 THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER
26 DISCIPLINE.”
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28 Wolfe did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Wolfe to be in default
29 and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order, based on the
30 files and records of the Commission concerning this matter.
31

32 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 33 1. The Commission has licensed Wolfe since September 1, 1995. Wolfe holds a
34 Professional Teaching License, with an endorsement in Special Education:
35 Generalist (PK-12), valid from October 21, 2019 through May 14, 2025. Wolfe also
36 holds a Professional Administrator License, with an endorsement in Administrator
37 (PK-12), valid from May 15, 2016 through May 14, 2021. On February 21, 2021,
38 Wolfe applied to renew his Professional Administrator License. The expiration of

1 Wolfe's Professional Administrator License was stayed pending the outcome of this
2 investigation. During all relevant times, Wolfe was employed by the Salem-Keizer
3 School District (SKSD).
4

- 5 2. On January 7, 2020, the Commission received a School District Misconduct Report
6 from SKSD alleging that Wolfe failed to follow district policy on student threat
7 protocols, failed to share a student's safety plan with staff, and sent confidential
8 student information to another student's email address. Additionally, during a
9 routine background check, the Commission discovered that Wolfe failed to note he
10 was currently under investigation on the character question regarding current
11 investigations when Wolfe applied to renew his Professional Administrator License.
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13

- 14 3. Investigation into these incidents yielded the following:
15

- 16 • In June of 2019, a SKSD student was in their counselor's office at school and was
17 reporting that they did not want to go home with their mother's boyfriend who
18 had a criminal past. The boyfriend was waiting for the student inside the school,
19 and office staff reported that they were uncomfortable. Staff met with Wolfe and
20 asked Wolfe to escort the boyfriend from the school. Wolfe reported that the
21 boyfriend was quietly sitting and waiting for the student, so Wolfe did not escort
22 the boyfriend from the building. Wolfe continued to communicate with the
23 counselor and learned the student's mother was coming to pick up the student
24 and would call the boyfriend. Wolfe reported that the boyfriend received a call
25 (assumed from the student's mother) and left the school. Wolfe then left work for
26 the day. The following day Wolfe was given a warning for not responding to staff
27 in violation of school student safety protocols.
28
- 29 • In the fall of the 2019-2020 school year, Wolfe received confidential student
30 safety information on student KP. The information related to KP fleeing from
31 staff, self-harming, and making threats towards another student. This
32 information needed to be documented in KP's updated TA, which is part of

1 Wolfe's assigned duties. On October 9, 2019, Wolfe prepared a draft Level 1 TA
2 and safety plan for KP. Wolfe added a digital signature and date for a counselor
3 who was not in attendance at the TA meeting. Wolfe reported that he added the
4 counselor's information to the TA because the counselor had provided him with
5 some input. Wolfe then distributed the TA to staff. When Wolfe did this, he sent
6 the TA to the wrong SKSD staff, and included a SKSD student with a similar
7 name to KP's case manager. Wolfe reported to district officials that he had done
8 this accidentally and reported that it showed a lack of attention to detail on his
9 part.

10
11 Investigation by the district substantiated the allegations, and the SKSD issued
12 Wolfe a Letter of Reprimand.

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14 4. On March 20, 2021, Wolfe interviewed with Commission Investigative staff. During
15 the interview, Wolfe admitted that he had added the counselor's signature to KP's TA
16 and reported that he had accidentally shared confidential student information with
17 another SKSD student by sending an email to the wrong email address. Wolfe reported
18 that he accidentally sent the email to a student with a name that was similar to the
19 names of a case manager employed with the SKSD. Wolfe reported that he merely
20 clicked on the wrong name(s). Wolfe also stated he was confused over which staff to
21 send the TA to because it was Wolfe's first year at Houck Middle School. Wolfe was also
22 questioned about failing to indicate that he was under Commission investigation when
23 he submitted his application for his Professional Administrator License renewal. On the
24 application, Wolfe also marked an answer indicating that he was not currently employed
25 in Oregon. Wolfe stated that he must not have been paying attention when he filled out
26 the application and reported that he never received notice from the Commission, either
27 by email or USPS first class mail, that he was under investigation. The Commission
28 mailed notice that Wolfe was under investigation on January 30, 2020. This mail was
29 delivered and was not returned to TSPC. Additionally, TSPC emailed a request to
30 interview Wolfe regarding the investigation on December 21, 2020, with the email
31 address on file with the Commission. Both notifications were sent prior to Wolfe
32 completing his license renewal application on February 23, 2021. Wolfe reported that he

1 did not check his email account but confirmed that the Commission did have the correct
2 mailing address on file.

3 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

4 The above conduct described in sections two (2), three (3) and four (4) above, constitutes
5 gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it
6 incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); and OAR 584-020-
7 0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain the dignity of the*
8 *profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty*).
9


10 The Commission’s authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
11 342.175.

12 **FINAL ORDER**

13 The Commission hereby issues a sixty-day (60) suspension upon Lonnie D. Wolfe’s
14 Oregon educator License. Upon successful reinstatement of licensure, Lonnie D. Wolfe will
15 be placed on probation for a period of two (2) years.

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17 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 25th day of October, 2021.

18 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**

19
20 By: 
21 Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director
22
23

24 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

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