



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

### 4 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 5 1. The Commission has licensed Bolden since July 26, 2018. Bolden holds a  
6 Preliminary Teaching License, with an endorsement in English Language Arts  
7 (PK-12), valid from July 7, 2021, through December 6, 2024. During all relevant  
8 times, Bolden was employed by Portland Public School District (PPSD).  
9
- 10 2. On February 7, 2020, the Commission received a report from PPS indicating  
11 Bolden may have committed acts which constitute gross neglect of duty and/or  
12 gross unfitness. Specifically, the report alleged Bolden engaged in inappropriate  
13 teacher/student relationships, which included allowing students to spend the  
14 night at her residence, texting with students about non-school related topics, and  
15 transporting students in her personal vehicle without proper authorization.  
16
- 17 3. Investigation determined that in the fall of 2019, Bolden formed a relationship with  
18 four (4) upperclassmen, JG, JJ, MH, and NR, who were enrolled in her leadership  
19 class at Jefferson High School. NR was a male student, and the others were female  
20 students. In time, the students began referring to the group as “The Family”, the  
21 group often referred to Bolden as “Ma” or “Mom.” Bolden maintains she did not start  
22 the use of these familiar terms.  
23
- 24 4. On November 23, 2019, Bolden invited the four students to her residence to socialize  
25 for the evening. While at Bolden’s residence, everyone played a game and Bolden  
26 asked the students questions about their social lives. JG and NR departed Bolden’s  
27 residence later in the evening after finishing the game. On December 6, 2019, Bolden  
28 had dinner at a restaurant with several students and posted photographs of the  
29 evening, which included the students’ faces, on Instagram. On December 24, 2019,  
30 the students spent time at Bolden’s residence and left at approximately 10:00 or 11:00  
31 PM. While at Bolden’s residence, Bolden and the students exchanged gifts which the  
32 students picked out for each other and Bolden had paid for. On January 4, 2020,  
33 Bolden used the communications application FaceTime on her personal cellular  
34 phone, from her residence, to communicate with a student after 10:00 PM. JJ and

1 MH participated in the call from Bolden’s residence. Bolden and the students  
2 regularly participated in group text messages beginning in early November 2019,  
3 through January 7, 2020.  
4

5 5. On January 9, 2020, Bolden was in the hallway near her classroom wearing a  
6 sweatshirt belonging to NR. A student reported that Bolden held it close to her chest,  
7 smelled it and then remarked, “*That was the only man in my life and the only man I*  
8 *loved.*” Bolden maintains that she did not utter this statement. Bolden reported that  
9 she found the sweatshirt in her classroom, did not know whose it was, wore it because  
10 she was cold, and then took it off because she did not want to get it dirty.  
11

12 6. On December 19, 2019, Bolden transported JG, JJ, and MH in Bolden’s personal  
13 automobile to a local shopping center without proper district authorization. On  
14 January 7, 2020, Bolden transported JJ and MH in her personal automobile to a  
15 basketball game at another high school in the district without proper authorization.  
16 On several other occasions during the 2019-2020 school year, Bolden transported  
17 students, sometimes with a single student passenger and other times with multiple  
18 student passengers, to school, to the students’ places of work, to the students’  
19 residences, to school activities and to other venues for school-related activities. On  
20 one occasion Bolden transported students to Eugene, OR, to attend a sporting event  
21 without proper authorization. For many of these trips Bolden had parental  
22 permission but may not have had proper paperwork filed for district permission  
23 because she was confused about the procedure for doing so.  
24

25 7. Bolden was provided the PPSD investigation report regarding her conduct. Bolden  
26 was recommended for termination but then offered a “Last Chance Agreement,”  
27 which was signed by Bolden and the PPSD on August 12, 2021. To date, Bolden has  
28 successfully completed all the provisions of this agreement.  
29

30 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

31 *Kawanna Bolden*

32 \_\_\_\_\_  
33 Kawanna T. Bolden

Jun 3, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

34 *Trent Danowski*

35 \_\_\_\_\_  
36 Trent Danowski, Deputy Director

*06/07/2022*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

37 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

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**CONCLUSION OF LAW**

The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A) (*Not demonstrating or expressing professionally inappropriate interest in a student's personal life*), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(B) (*Not accepting or giving or exchanging romantic or overly personal gifts or notes with students*), 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.

**ORDER**

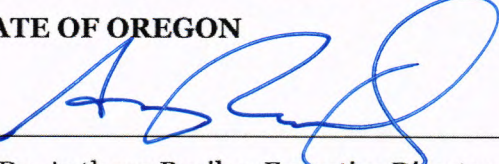
The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a thirty (30) day suspension upon Kawanna T. Bolden’s Oregon educator license.

Furthermore, the Commission imposes a period of two (2) years of probation upon Bolden’s licensure to commence from the date the order is signed by the Commission and subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Bolden shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division 020.
- 2. Prior to reinstatement, Bolden shall provide to the Commission evidence of participation in professional counseling specifically related to teacher/student boundaries.

Issued and dated this 22 day of June, 2022.

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

By   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director