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

In the Matter of the) STIPULATION OF FACTS AND
Educator License of) FINAL ORDER OF
JONES, WILLIAM A.) PUBLIC REPRIMAND AND
) PROBATION

On May 14, 2021, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received an application for licensure from William A. Jones (Jones). On the application, Jones self-reported in response to a character question that he had been terminated from employment by the Eugene 4J School District (E4JSD) for failing to cooperate with a district investigation into allegations of sexual misconduct by Jones. Based on this information, the Commission opened an investigation.

After review of the matters alleged, Jones and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts, the imposition of a Public Reprimand, and a three (3) year period of probation.

This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the sanction to be imposed. Jones stipulates that there are sufficient facts 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, Jones waives the right to a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.

By signing below, Jones 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 Public Reprimand and Probation (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 Jones 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

1 been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has
2 consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully
3 advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an
4 attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of
5 the Stipulated Final Order below.

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7 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**
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- 9 1. Jones holds a Professional Teaching License, with endorsements in
10 Foundational Mathematics (PK-12), Legacy Middle Level (PK-12), and
11 Physical Education (PK-12), valid from May 19, 2020, through July 9, 2023.
12 During all relevant times, Jones was employed by the Eugene 4J School
13 District (E4JSD).
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- 15 2. On May 14, 2021, the Commission received an application for licensure from
16 Jones. On the application, Jones self-reported in response to a character
17 question that he had been terminated from employment by E4JSD for failing
18 to cooperate with a district investigation into allegations of sexual misconduct
19 against him. Based on this information, the Commission opened an
20 investigation.
21
- 22 3. Investigation by E4JSD and the Commission determined that a woman Jones
23 met on a dating App (Tinder) reported to police that he had allegedly
24 inappropriately touched non-verbal Special Education (SPED) students at
25 school while employed as an Educational Assistant (EA) at North Eugene
26 High School (NEHS). Additionally, it was reported that Jones was aware of
27 NEHS SPED students sneaking off at lunch to have sex with one another. The
28 matter was reported to the Eugene Police Department (EPD). The E4JSD
29 initiated an investigation into this matter, and Jones was interviewed on
30 December 14, 2018, and January 15, 2019, by district administration. During
31 these interviews, it was reported that Jones provided “vague and incomplete”
32 responses to questions and behaved in a manner that was elusive. Based on
33 this, the E4JSD determined that Jones “failed to participate in the

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investigation into alleged sexual conduct with students” and he was terminated from his position by the district on January 25, 2019.

4. On July 28, 2021, Jones interviewed with TSPC investigative staff. During that interview, Jones acknowledged that he should have been more forthcoming with information during the district investigation/interviews. Jones reported that he was sorry the whole thing happened and reported that he had matured a lot since the incident. Jones stated that while the allegations themselves were untrue, he wouldn't make the same mistakes he made “back then” with regards to how he conducted himself in the district interviews/investigation. Jones reported that he “truly” did not know or understand why the woman he met on Tinder would have made such allegations and stated that she might have been upset with him and seeking revenge. Jones also stated that it was possible she had some mental health issues. Jones also reported that in the future, he would be more careful of who he met online. In follow-up correspondence with TSPC staff on January 25, 2022, Jones expressed regret for speaking candidly with the woman about things he had experienced in the classroom and stated that he had shared some stories with her that had “shock value” and believes that she misconstrued or misunderstood what he shared. Jones reported that he believes that this misunderstanding is likely what caused the allegation the woman shared with police about students sneaking off at lunch to have sex. Jones stated that his reluctance to speak to district officials during the investigation stemmed from his embarrassment that he had shared stories about students with the woman. Jones stated in the correspondence that in the future, he will be careful not to go around sharing information about students. Jones states that he accepts full responsibility for his actions.

IT IS SO STIPULATED:

William A. Jones
William A. Jones

03/14/2022
Date

Tr J Damann

03/16/2022

1 Trent Danowski, Deputy Director
2 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

Date

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CONCLUSION OF LAW

5 The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
6 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-
7 0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*); and OAR 584-
8 020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(b) (*Refrain from exploiting*
9 *professional relationships with any student for personal gain, or in support of persons*
10 *or issues*).

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

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ORDER

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Issued and dated this 1 day of April 2022.

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TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

24

STATE OF OREGON

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By 

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Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director