

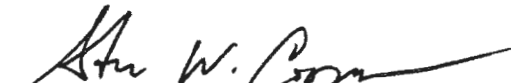
1 been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has
2 consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully
3 advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an
4 attorney prior to entering into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

6
7 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 8 1. The Commission has licensed Cooper since July 15, 1988. Cooper holds a
9 Professional Teaching License, with endorsements in Basic Integrated Science
10 (PK-12) and Middle Level Emphasis (PK-12), valid from March 10, 2019, through
11 March 9, 2024. Cooper also holds a Preliminary Administrator License, with an
12 endorsement in Administrator (PK-12), valid from July 3, 2018, through March
13 9, 2022. On March 2, 2022, Cooper submitted an application for renewal of his
14 administrator license. The application was placed on hold pending resolution of
15 this matter. During all relevant times, Cooper was employed by the Yamhill-
16 Carlton School District (YCSD).
17
- 18 2. On November 15, 2021, the Commission received information from the YCSD
19 that on November 10, 2021, Cooper was arrested by local law enforcement for
20 driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII) after his involvement in a single
21 car accident while driving to a district function.
22
- 23 3. Investigation determined November 10, 2021, was an early release day for the
24 YCSD. At approximately 2:30 PM on November 10, 2021, Cooper left school and
25 drove home to pack for a weekend trip. While at his residence, Cooper consumed
26 an alcoholic beverage. At approximately 5:30 PM, Cooper departed his home by
27 automobile to attend a school board meeting scheduled to begin at 6:00 PM.
28 Cooper's attendance at the school board meeting was to provide the board a
29 verbal report on Yamhill High School. While in transit to the board meeting,
30 Cooper's vehicle impacted a guard rail. The Yamhill County Sherriff's Office
31 responded to the scene and Cooper was arrested for DUII. Cooper's blood alcohol
32 content was determined by breathalyzer to be 0.08. Cooper's arrest prevented
33 him from attending the board meeting and making the verbal report to the board.
34


1 4. After the District's inquiry into the matter in mid-November 2021, the District
2 issued Cooper a letter of reprimand and a four-day suspension for violating
3 district policy. On December 28, 2021, Cooper plead guilty to the DUII charge in
4 Yamhill Circuit Court and was granted a diverted sentence.
5

6 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

7 
8 _____
9 Steven W. Cooper

9-9-22

Date

10 
11 _____
12 Trent Danowski, Deputy Director
13 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
14
15

9/9/2022

Date

16 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

17 The conduct described in paragraph 4 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 judgement*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district*
20 *lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*), and OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain*
21 *the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal*
22 *integrity and honesty*)

23 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
24 ORS 342.175.
25

26 **ORDER**

27 The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
28 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on Steve W.
29 Cooper's Oregon educator license.

30 Furthermore, the Commission imposes a period of one (1) year probation upon
31 Cooper's license to commence from the date this order is signed by the Commission and
32 subject to the following condition:
33

- 34 1. Cooper shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance
35 of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division
36 020.
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Issued and dated this 14 day of October, 2022.

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

By  _____
Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director