1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 In the Matter of the STIPULATION OF FACTS AND 4 Educator License of FINAL ORDER OF 5 APRIL E. TRACY) PUBLIC REPRIMAND 6 AND PROBATION 7 8 9 On November 21, 2022, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission 10 (Commission) received a school district misconduct report from the Hillsboro School 11 District (HSD), alleging possible professional misconduct on the part of licensed 12 educator, April E. Tracy (Tracy). 13 After review of the matters alleged, Tracy and the Commission agree that their 14 respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to 15 certain facts and the imposition of a Public Reprimand and period of Probation of 16 Tracy's teaching license. 17 This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the 18 sanction to be imposed. Tracy stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained in the 19 Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set 20 forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Tracy waives the right to a hearing to 21 contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below. 22 By signing below, Tracy acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the 23 following: (i) she has been fully advised of her rights to notice and a hearing to contest 24 the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally 25 waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of 26 Facts and Final Order of Revocation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation 27 and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request by the 28 Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and subject to 29 approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not approve and 30 adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Tracy nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) she has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and 31 understands it completely; (v) she voluntarily, without any force or duress, enters into 32 this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of the Stipulated 33 Final Order below; (vi) she states that no promise or representation has been made to 34

induce her to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) she has consulted with an

attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully advised with

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1 regard to her rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior 2 to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated 3 Final Order below. 4 5 STIPULATION OF FACTS 6 7 The Commission has licensed Tracy since April 2, 2015. Tracy holds a 8 Preliminary Teaching License, with endorsements in Special Education: 9 Generalist (PK-12), Elementary – Multiple Subjects (PK-12), and English to 10 Speakers of Other Languages (PK-12) which was valid from January 17, 2021 and 11 expired on March 31, 2024. During all relevant times, Tracy was employed by the 12 Hillsboro School District (HSD). 13 14 2. On November 21, 2022, TSPC received a school district misconduct report 15 alleging that Tracy engaged in professional misconduct. The misconduct report 16 alleged that on or about October 19, 2022 while working in the capacity as a 17 teacher at Patterson Elementary School in the HSD, Tracy threw a bean bag chair 18 towards a special education student which caused him to trip and fall. 19 20 3. According to HSD documents and a TSPC investigation into this matter, the 21 following occurred in relation to the above-listed allegation: 22 23 On or about October 19, 2022, while Tracy was instructing in her classroom, 24 she threw a bean bag chair towards a special education student GL, age six 25 (6).26 Student GL tripped and fell on the bean bag but was uninjured. HSD administration became aware of the incident and placed Tracy on 27 administrative leave on October 21, 2022. 28 29 Multiple staff witnesses reported seeing Tracy throw the bean bag chair in the 30 direction of student GL and reported that it caused him to trip and fall. 31 Upon completion of the district investigation, Tracy resigned her position

with the HSD via a Separation Agreement on December 31, 2022.

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1	4. On January 16, 2024, Tracy interviewed with 15PC investigative staff via	
2	telephone in the presence of her attorney, Charese Rohny. During the interview,	
3	Tracy confirmed the information listed above but stated that she believed she ha	d
4	thrown a pillow, not a bean bag chair, in the direction of student GL. Tracy	
5	reported that she threw the pillow because student GL was running around the	
6	classroom and started to fall. Tracy reported that she has an old knee injury that	
7	prevents her from moving fast, so she opted to throw the pillow in hopes it would	f
8	cushion student GL's fall and prevent injury. Tracy described the object she three	w
9	as a circular a "Squishmellow" pillow. Tracy reported that student GL did fall, bu	ıt
10	immediately got back to his feet and continued to play. Tracy concluded her	
11	interview with TSPC investigative staff by reporting that she takes full	
12	responsibility for her actions, and state that she has "remorse" for throwing the	
13	pillow towards student GL and wishes she would have handled the matter	
14	differently.	
15		
16	IT IS SO STIPULATED:	
17	A: 2 513012024	
18	April E. Tracy Date Le/Le/24	
19 20	(2) Ectar (e) (e) 24	
21	Cristina Edgar, Professional Practices Director Date Teacher Standards and Practices Commission	
	reactier Standards and Fractices Commission	
23		
24 25	CONCLUSION OF LAW	
26	The conduct described in sections two (2), and three (3) above constitutes gross	
27	neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it	
28	incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment), OAR 584-020-	
29	0020(2)(d) (Skill in the supervision of students), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using	
30	district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations).	
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1	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
2	ORS 342.175.
3	ORDER
4	The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
5	conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand and a two (2) year
6	period of probation upon April E. Tracy's Oregon educator license. The period of probation
7	will become effective on the date of adoption of this stipulated order. The period of
8	probation is subject to the following conditions:
9	
10	1. Tracy shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of
11	Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division
12	020.
13	
14	2. Tracy will successfully complete a Commission approved training course on
15	Classroom Management during the first year of probation.
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17	24
18	Issued and dated this 219 day of June, 2024.
19	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
20	STATE OF OREGON
21	· 111 · UM
22	By A
23	Melisaa Goff, Interim Executive Director