
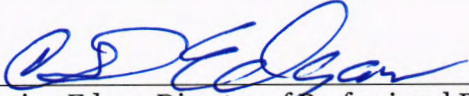


1 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 2 1. The Commission has licensed Danese since December 8, 2021. Danese held a
3 Restricted Teaching License, with an endorsement in Physical Education (PK-12),
4 valid from July 21, 2022, through June 30, 2023. During all relevant times,
5 Danese was employed by Portland Public Schools (PPS).
6
- 7 2. On October 7, 2022, the Commission received a report from PPS indicating
8 Danese may have committed acts of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness.
9 Specifically, PPS alleged Danese inappropriately communicated with female
10 students about non-school related matters, outside of school hours, which made
11 the students uncomfortable.
12
- 13 3. Investigation found that during the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years, Danese
14 was employed as a teacher at Ida B. Wells High School, PPS. From 2021 to 2022,
15 Danese engaged in direct conversations and social media messaging with female
16 students about the students' personal lives and other non-school related topics.
17 Some of the social media interactions occurred after school hours in the evening
18 or over the weekend.
19
- 20 a) During the 2021-22 school year, Danese engaged a female student in
21 conversations which included non-school related topics, the student's
22 relationships, and inquired into the student's social life. Danese had
23 helped coach the student's high school basketball team. On June 1, 2022,
24 Danese messaged the student via social media by identifying himself.
25 After the student graduated from high school, on June 26, August 14, and
26 August 28, 2021, Danese messaged the student and invited her to play
27 basketball with him and others at a regular organized co-ed pickup
28 basketball game with former competitive basketball players. In the
29 messages sent on June 26, 2022, Danese also inquired about the student's
30 employment and possibly stopping by her place of work.
31
- 32 b) On June 7, 2022, Danese sent a private message via social media to a
33 female foreign exchange student shortly after her graduation and gave the
34 student his personal cell phone number. Danese had coached the student

1 in football and instructed the student in weightlifting. The student had
2 discussed with Danese an interest in pursuing a career in personal
3 training, as Danese also ran his own personal training business. On June
4 14, 2022, Danese engaged in a message conversation with the student
5 about non-school activities such as weightlifting and gyms. Danese then
6 asked the student if she wanted to work out with him the following day at
7 a named gym that they both belonged to.

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9 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

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13 _____
14 Gregory C. Danese
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19 Cristina Edgar, Director of Professional Practices
20 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
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03 / 12 / 2024

Date

3/13/24

Date

CONCLUSION OF LAW

The conduct described in Section three (3) 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 584-020-030(2)(b) (*Skill in communicating with administrators, students, staff, parents and other patrons*); 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*), 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 Public Reprimand on Gregory C. Danese's Oregon educator license.

1 Furthermore, the Commission imposes a three (3) year period of probation upon
2 Danese's Oregon educator license to commence from the issuance of an Oregon teaching
3 license, and subject to the following terms and conditions of probation:

- 4
- 5 1. Danese shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance
6 of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division
7 020.
 - 8 2. Danese shall successfully complete Commission approved training courses on
9 teacher/student boundaries and classroom management within the first six (6)
10 months of probation and provide evidence to the Commission of such training.

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12 Issued and dated this 15th day of April, 2024.

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

15
16
17 By _____

18 Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director