



1 relevant times Yount was employed with the Jefferson County School District  
2 (JCSD) or the Mitchell School District (MSD).

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- 4 2. On June 14, 2022, the Commission received reports from DHS which contained  
5 allegations that Yount sexually abused five (5) female students at Mitchell School,  
6 MSD, by giving the students unwanted massages for extended periods of time,  
7 and that Yount made insensitive remarks to students. On June 15, 2022, the  
8 Commission received another report from DHS which contained another  
9 allegation that Yount made a specific student at Mitchell School uncomfortable  
10 by giving the student a massage for an extended period of time. On June 22,  
11 2022, the Commission received a misconduct report from the MSD, alleging  
12 Yount had massaged a student for over two (2) minutes which made the student  
13 uncomfortable.

14

15 On November 30, 2022, the Commission received a misconduct report from the  
16 MSD alleging Yount stored dozens of confidential student documents from his  
17 previous employer, the JCSD, in his desk at Mitchell School. On November 30,  
18 2022, the Commission received a misconduct report from the JCSD alleging  
19 Yount removed confidential student records from the JCSD which were found in  
20 his desk at Mitchell School.

- 21
- 22 3. Investigation found that during the 2021-22 school year, Yount made insensitive  
23 comments to a male and female student regarding their physiques, Yount made  
24 an ethnically insensitive comment to a student about his being fast because he  
25 was used to running from the border patrol, Yount made other insensitive  
26 remarks to students such as calling them stupid, and Yount made insensitive  
27 remarks to a foreign student about the student's accent and country of origin.
- 28
- 29 4. Investigation found that during the 2021-22, as a teacher and coach at Mitchell  
30 School, Yount frequently initiated, without permission, unwanted upper-  
31 shoulder and neck massages to female students. These massages occurred at  
32 school and on one occasion, in a public area of the dorm residence of a student.

1 The massages lasted anywhere from a few seconds to two (2) minutes. On  
2 another occasion, Yount asked a female student to sit on his lap and the student  
3 said no. Yount continued to persuade the student to sit on his lap until she  
4 succumbed to Yount's pressuring.

- 5  
6 5. Investigation found that that after Yount resigned from the JCSD in June 2021,  
7 he accepted a position with the MSD. After Yount resigned and left the MSD in  
8 June 2022, MSD staff found approximately thirty (30) pages of confidential  
9 paperwork of some of Yount's former students at the JCSD. The documents  
10 included partial copies of students' individualized education programs (IEPs).

### 11 12 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

13 Darrell E. Yount's conduct as described in section three (3) above constitutes  
14 gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it  
15 incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(1) (*Recognize the worth and dignity of all persons*  
16 *and respect for each individual*), OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*),  
17 OAR 584-020-0020(2)(d) (*Skill in the supervision of students*), OAR 584-020-0025(1)  
18 (*The competent educator is a person who understands students and is able to relate to*  
19 *them in constructive and culturally competent ways*) and OAR 5840-020-0030(2)(b)  
20 (*Skill in communicating with administrators, students, staff, parent, and other*  
21 *patrons*).

22 Yount's conduct described in section four (4) above constitutes gross neglect of  
23 duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates  
24 OAR 584-020-0010(1) (*Recognize the worth and dignity of all persons and respect for*  
25 *each individual*), OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); and OAR 584-  
26 020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate*  
27 *adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times*).

28 Yount's conduct described in section five (5) above constitutes gross neglect of  
29 duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates  
30 OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), and OAR 584-020-0025(c) (*Using*  
31 *and maintaining student records as required by federal and state law and district*  
32 *policies and procedures*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-

1 020-0035(1)(a) (*Keep the confidence entrusted in the profession as it relates to*  
2 *confidential information concerning a student and the student's family*).

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

5  
6 **FINAL ORDER**

7 The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and  
8 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Suspension of six (6) months upon  
9 Darrell E. Yount's Oregon educator license.

10 Furthermore, the Commission imposes a probation period of three (3) years upon  
11 Yount's licensure to commence from the date the Yount's license is reinstated by the  
12 Commission and subject to the following condition:

- 13 1. Yount shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of  
14 Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division  
15 020.

16  
17 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 21 day of November, 2024.

18  
19 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**  
20  
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22

23 By:  \_\_\_\_\_

24  
25 Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director  
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27

28 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

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31 **YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY**  
32 **BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE**  
33 **SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF**  
34 **ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.**