## 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 KATHRYN M. WADNIZAK ) PUBLIC REPRIMAND 6 7 8 On May 5, 2023, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) 9 received a School District Misconduct Report from the David Douglas School District 10 (DDSD). The report alleged possible professional misconduct on the part of licensed 11 educator, Kathryn M. Wadnizak, (Wadnizak). 12 After review of the matters alleged, Wadnizak and the Commission agree that 13 their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a 14 stipulation to certain facts and the imposition of a Public Reprimand and two (2) years of 15 probation of Wadnizak's Oregon educator license. 16 This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the 17 sanction to be imposed stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained in the 18 Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set 19 forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Wadnizak waives the right to a hearing to 20 contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below. 21 By signing below, Wadnizak acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to 22 the following: (i) she has been fully advised of her rights to notice and a hearing to 23 contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and 24 finally waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this 25 Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of a Public Reprimand of licensure (Stipulation and 26 Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to 27 the public upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is 28 contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the 29 Commission does not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither 30 Wadnizak nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) she has fully read this 31 Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) she voluntarily, without 32 any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance 33 and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) she states that no promise or

representation has been made to induce her to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and

(vii) she has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and

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has been fully advised with regard to her rights thereto or waives any and all rights to
 consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and
 issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below.

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## STIPULATION OF FACTS

1. The Commission has licensed Wadnizak since April 4, 2002. Wadnizak holds a Professional Teaching License, with endorsements in Elementary – Multiple Subjects (PK-12), English Language Arts (PK-12), English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) (PK-12), Legacy Middle Level (PK-12), and Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialization (PK-12) valid from January 31, 2023, through February 19, 2028. During all relevant times, Wadnizak was employed by the David Douglas School District (DDSD).

2. On May 5, 2023, the Commission received a School District Misconduct Report from the DDSD indicating Wadnizak may have committed acts which constitute gross neglect of duty and / or gross unfitness. The report alleged that on April 25, 2023, Wadnizak appeared to be under the influence of alcohol when arriving to school to teach multiple classes.

3. Investigation found that on April 25, 2023, Wadnizak arrived to campus at 7:50 A.M. and smelled of alcohol, had slurred speech, and was oversharing about family hardships and talking about students while crying. Administration located Wadnizak and asked her is she was under the influence of any intoxicants, drugs, or alcohol to which she responded saying "herbs, anti-anxiety herbs". Wadnizak denied being under the influence of alcohol. Administration asked Wadnizak to submit to either a breath or urine sample and Wadnizak complied. Wadnizak was transported to Adventist Health Occupational Medicine and took part in a breathalyzer test. Wadnizak submitted two breath samples which showed results of .213% blood alcohol content (BAC) at 9:09 A.M. and .214% BAC at 9:34 A.M. Wadnizak later admitted to administration that she had been "drinking" with her mother until midnight (12:00 AM) during the night prior but denied drinking that morning or while at work.

4. On or around June 21, 2023, Wadnizak effectively submitted her resignation in lieu of termination. 5. During Wadnizak's Commission interview, Wadnizak explained that she is the sole caretaker of her terminally ill mother and was under severe mental duress during April of 2023. Wadnizak said following this issue she immediately enrolled in a rehabilitation program and provided TSPC with documentation of completion. Wadnizak reemphasized that she did not come into contact with any students while on campus on April 25, 2023. IT IS SO STIPULATED: 9/30/24 Date Cristina Edgar, Professional Practices Director Teacher Standards and Practices Commission CONCLUSION OF LAW The conduct described above in paragraph four (4) 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), OAR 584-020-0040(4)(g) (Appearing on duty or at any district-sponsored activity while under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance), OAR 584-020-0020(2)(d) (Skill in the supervision of students), and OAR 584-020-0025(1)(a) (Establishing and maintaining classroom management that is conducive to learning). 

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2	FINAL ORDER
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4	The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fac
5	and conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on
6	Wadnizak's Oregon educator license.
7	Furthermore, the Commission imposes a two (2) year period of probation
8	upon Wadnizak's licensure to commence upon the date of signature of this
9	document, and subject to the following condition:
10	<ol> <li>Wadnizak shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical</li> </ol>
11	Performance of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules
12	Chapter 584, Division 020.
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15 16	Issued and dated this <u>18</u> day of October, 2024.
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8	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
9	STATE OF OREGON
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21	By tu
22	Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director-
	Rue EHE Newman, Chair of TSPC