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BEFORE THE TEACHIS STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of the ) STIPULATION OF FACTS AND  
Educator License of ) FINAL ORDER OF PUBLIC  
ROBERT E. WALLACE ) REPRIMAND AND PROBATION

On June 21, 2023, the Commission received a report from the David Douglas School District (DDSD) indicating Robert E. Wallace (Wallace) may have committed acts of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness involving a student. On November 9, 2023, the Commission received a report from the South Coast Education Service District (ESD) indicating Wallace may have committed acts of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness involving school staff.

After review of the matters alleged, Wallace and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts, the imposition of a public reprimand, and a three (3) year period of probation.

This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the sanction to be imposed. Wallace stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained in the Commission’s files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Wallace waives the right to a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.

By signing below, Wallace acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Public Reprimand and Probation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Wallace nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promise or representation has been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has

1 consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully  
2 advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an  
3 attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of  
4 the Stipulated Final Order below.

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6 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 7 1. The Commission has licensed Wallace since April 2, 2020. Wallace holds a  
8 Preliminary Teaching License, with an endorsement in Special Education:  
9 Generalist (PK-12), valid from July 1, 2022, through July 9, 2025. On August 17,  
10 2023, Wallace submitted an application for a Restricted Administrator License.  
11 This application was placed on hold pending the outcome of this matter. During  
12 all relevant times, Wallace was employed by the David Douglas School District  
13 (DDSD) or the South Coast ESD.
- 14
- 15 2. On June 21, 2023, the Commission received a report from the DDSD indicating  
16 Wallace may have committed acts of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness.  
17 Specifically, it was alleged Wallace used unnecessary physical force with a four  
18 (4) year-old student while escorting the student at school. On November 9, 2023,  
19 the Commission received a report from the South Coast ESD indicating Wallace  
20 may have committed acts of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness.  
21 Specifically, it was alleged Wallace received complaints regarding inappropriate  
22 staff interactions.
- 23
- 24 3. Investigation found that on May 31, 2023, Wallace was monitoring students during  
25 a recess break at Sweetbriar Elementary School, DDSD, when a four (4) year-old  
26 student, LY, fell a few feet to the ground from a swing. LY scrapped his knee and  
27 may have injured his hand. As recess ended, Wallace held LY's hand and began  
28 escorting LY to the school building. LY began to cry and said he did not want to  
29 come in from recess since he had to miss part of it. As Wallace continued to escort  
30 LY to the classroom, LY asked for Wallace to let go and Wallace did not. Wallace  
31 continued to hold LY's hand until they got to the classroom. Moments after Wallace  
32 returned LY to the classroom, LY shared with other staff his hand was sore and it  
33 was observed to be red. Wallace denied using any force.
- 34

- 1 4. On July 1, 2023, Wallace submitted his resignation to the David Douglas School  
2 District.  
3  
4 5. Investigation found that Wallace was employed with the South Coast ESD from  
5 July 1, 2023, through December 15, 2023. Shortly after Wallace's hiring, Wallace  
6 completed training regarding district policies and appropriate staff interactions.  
7 During Wallace's period of employment, Wallace initiated unwanted physical  
8 contact in the form of hugs, with female ESD staff members from approximately  
9 July 3, 2023, through September 6, 2023. Wallace maintains that he asked for and  
10 received permission to give all hugs. During the period of Wallace's employment  
11 with the South Coast ESD, Wallace also initiated conversations with female ESD  
12 staff and shared comments about his personal life which some staff felt were  
13 inappropriate or unprofessional.  
14  
15 6. On December 15, 2023, Wallace submitted his resignation to the South Coast ESD  
16 in lieu of termination.  
17

18 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

19  
20 Robert Wallace 07 / 29 / 2024  
21 Robert E. Wallace Date  
22

23  
24 Cristina Edgar 7/30/2024  
25 Cristina Edgar, Director of Professional Practices Date  
26 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission  
27

28  
29 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

30 The conduct described in section three (3) above constitutes gross neglect of duty  
31 in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-  
32 020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0020(2)(d) (*Skill in the*  
33 *supervision of students*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and*  
34 *reasonable rules and regulations*) and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(d) (*Unreasonable*  
35 *physical force against students, fellow employees, or visitors to the school, except as*  
36 *permitted under ORS 339.250*).

1 The conduct described in section five (5) above constitutes gross neglect of duty  
2 in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-  
3 020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0010(1) (*Recognize the worth*  
4 *and dignity of all persons and respect for each individual*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e)  
5 (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*), OAR 584-020-0030(2)(b)  
6 (*Skill in communicating with administrators, students, staff, parents, and other*  
7 *patrons*).

8 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS  
9 342.175.

10  
11 **ORDER**

12 The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and  
13 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a public reprimand upon Robert E.  
14 Wallace's Oregon educator license.

15 Furthermore, the Commission imposes a period of three (3) years of probation  
16 upon Wallace's licensure to commence from the date this order is signed by the  
17 Commission and subject to the following conditions:

- 18
- 19 1. Wallace shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance  
20 of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division  
21 020.
  - 22 2. Within the first year of probation, Wallace shall complete a Commission  
23 approved training on interpersonal skills and submit proof to the Commission of  
24 successful completion of the training.

25  
26 Issued and dated this 21 day of August, 2024.

27  
28 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**  
29 **STATE OF OREGON**

30  
31  
32 By  \_\_\_\_\_  
33 Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director