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Teacher Standards & Practices Commission

## BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

1

2	OF THE STATE OF OREGON
3 4 5 6	In the Matter of the ) STIPULATION OF FACTS AND Educator License of ) FINAL ORDER OF REPRIMAND DONALD SONNY SANDS ) AND PROBATION
7	On May 28, 2013, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
8	(Commission) received a report from the Rogue River School District alleging
9	professional misconduct on the part of licensed educator, Donald Sonny Sands (Sands).
0	After review of the matters alleged, Sands and the Commission agree that their
1	respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to
2	certain facts and the imposition of a Public Reprimand and two years of probation.
3	This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the
4	sanction to be imposed. Sands stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained in the
5	Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set
6	forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Sands waives the right to a hearing to
7	contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.
8	By signing below, Sands acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the
9	following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest the
20	findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally
21	waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of
22	Facts and Final Order of Reprimand and Probation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii)
23	this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon
24	request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and
25	subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not
26	approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Sands nor the
27	Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and
28	Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force or
29	duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of
30	the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promise or representation has
31	been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has
32	consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully
33	advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an
34	attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of
35	the Stimulated Final Order below

## 1 STIPULATION OF FACTS 2 The Commission has licensed Sands since March 31, 1989. Sands' Basic Teaching 3 License, with an endorsement in Basic Advanced Mathematics (018), issued on 4 December 3, 2013, expires on December 2, 2016. During all relevant times, Sands 5 was employed by the Rogue River School District. 6 2. On May 28, 2013, the Commission received a report from the Rouge River School 7 District indicating that Sands may have violated professional standards by 8 displaying inappropriate conduct in the classroom. 9 3. Commission investigation determined that on May 17, 2013, while substitute 10 teaching a physical education class at the Rogue River Junior/Senior High 11 School, Sands made inappropriate comments to students. According to school 12 district officials, Sands asked a non-white student, "Do you speak English or are 13 you an idiot?" Nearby students reported Sands also stated to the student that he 14 should "Go back where he came from". When questioned by a school 15 administrator and the commission's investigator, Sands confirmed that he did ask the student if he spoke English but denied asking if he was an idiot and telling 16 17 him he should go back where he came from. Multiple student witnesses 18 contradict Sands' denials. Student statements further indicate Sands also verbally 19 bullied a student assistant for the class (BS) to the point she left the class crying 20 uncontrollably. 21 /// 22 IT IS SO STIPULATED: 23 24 25 26 27 28 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director 29 **Teacher Standards and Practices Commission** 30 31 CONCLUSION OF LAW 32 The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 33 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(1) 34 (Recognize the worth and dignity of all persons and respect for each individual), OAR 35 584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment); OAR 584-020-0020(2)(d)(Skill in the

1	supervision of students), and OAR 584-020-0030(2)(b) (Skill in communicating with
2	administrators, students, staff, parents, and other patrons).
3	
4	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
5	ORS 342.175.
6	
7	ORDER
8	Based on the foregoing, the Commission hereby orders as follows:
9	1. The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
10	conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on
11	Donald Sonny Sands' Educators License;
12	
13	2. Sands is hereby placed on probation for a period of two (2) years from the date
14	this order is signed by the Commission subject to the following conditions:
15	
16	a. Sands will complete training in cultural competency, as approved by the
17	Commission.
18	b. Sands shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical
19	Performance of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules
20	Chapter 584, Division 020.
21	
22	Violation of any term or condition of probation shall constitute an independent basis
23	for the Commission to revoke Sands' teaching license, revoke his right to apply for a
24	license, or otherwise impose discipline, after first providing Sands with notice and
25	opportunity for hearing.
26	) Yn
27	Issued and dated this day of August, 2014.
28	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
29	STATE OF OREGON
30	
31	By Dictorio hanberlain
32	Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I served the foregoing Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Reprimand and Probation, certified by me as such, by mailing U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail — Return Receipt Requested, addressed to:

Donald Sonny Sands 4404 Foothill Boulevard Grants Pass, OR 97526-4244

DATED this

day of August, 2014.

By:

Patte Liddell

Investigative Assistant