

1 email to TSPC in which he explained his "yes" answers to the character questions.
2 Rhode explained that he was under investigation by the Idaho Department of
3 Education Professional Standards Committee (IDE PSC) for inappropriate
4 communications with a former student.

5 3. The Commission conducted an investigation to determine the scope, findings, and
6 final outcome of the IDE PSC investigation. On July 14, 2015, the West Ada School
7 District filed a report with the IDE PSC related to Rhode's conduct. On July 15, 2016,
8 Rhode entered into a stipulated agreement with the IDE PSC settling his case which
9 resulted in the revocation of Rhode's Idaho Teaching License. On September 23,
10 2016, the agreement was made final by Consent Order. Rhode's conduct that lead to
11 the revocation of his Idaho Teaching License as detailed in the stipulated facts
12 section of the Idaho Order include:

- 13 a) During the relevant time period of the 2013-2014 school year, Rhode was
14 employed by the West Ada School District (Idaho) as a high school teacher,
15 and student TR was either 17 or 18 years of age.
- 16 b) During the 2013-2014 school year, Rhode and student TR would have
17 discussions in a room (known as the "Paper Closet") with the door closed and
18 a cover over the window, where on at least one occasion, student TR discussed
19 with Rhode details of her life, including her sex life.
- 20 c) During one discussion in the Paper Closet between Rhode and student TR,
21 Rhode commented that if student TR was willing to sleep with someone who
22 was nice to her, she should have sex with Rhode (or with her boyfriend or with
23 everyone).
- 24 d) During at least one discussion in the Paper Closet, Rhode shared details of his
25 personal life with student TR, including information about Rhode's marriage.
- 26 e) At one time during the semester, student TR and Rhode communicated via
27 paper-writing back and forth to one another-which included the subject of
28 sex.

29 ////

30 ////

1 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

2 John Robert Rhode engaged in unprofessional conduct as described in sections two (2)
3 and three (3) above. Rhode’s conduct is grounds for denial of his application under ORS
4 342.143(2). The above conduct also constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
5 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use*
6 *professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-
7 0035(1)(c)(A) (*Not demonstrating or expressing professionally inappropriate interest in a*
8 *student’s personal life*), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(B) (*Not accepting or giving or*
9 *exchanging romantic or overly personal gifts or notes with a student*); and OAR 584-020-
10 0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and*
11 *conversations at all times*). The above conduct also constitutes gross unfitness in violation
12 of ORS 342-175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(a) (*Revocation, suspension or denial of a*
13 *license by another state for reasons and through procedures that are the same as, or*
14 *substantially equivalent to, those permitting similar action in Oregon*).
15

16 The Commission’s authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
17 342.175.

18 **FINAL ORDER**

19 The Commission hereby denies John Robert Rhode’s application for licensure in
20 Oregon and revokes John Robert Rhode’s Right to Apply for an Oregon Educator License.
21 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 7th day of June, 2017.

22 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

23
24 By: Monica Beane
25 Dr. Monica Beane, Executive Director
26

27 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

28
29 YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW
30 MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM
31 THE SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE
32 PROVISIONS OF ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.