## BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of the Teaching License of DOUGLAS JAMES PUCKETT

DEFAULT ORDER REVOKING LICENSE

On November 9, 1998, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission received a report from the Director of Personnel at North Clackamas SD, regarding Douglas Puckett's inappropriate conduct while serving as a substitute teacher for the district and that they had removed his name from their substitute list. TSPC's investigation revealed that Puckett's behavior at three other school districts resulted in his name being removed from their substitute list for similar inappropriate conduct.. The Commission considered an investigation report and recommendation on March 12, 1999 and took action to charge Puckett with violation of TSPC Standards and provide him an opportunity for hearing on the charges. The Executive Director notified Puckett of the charges and of intent to revoke his license, and to inform him of his opportunity for hearing. The notice, dated March 18, 1999, and signed by David V. Myton, Executive Director, stated:

 "You, Douglas James Puckett, are entitled to a hearing on the proposed action of the Commission. If you want a hearing, you must file a written request doe hearing with the Commission within 21 days of the date of this notice."

The notice of opportunity for hearing was sent by U.S. first class mail and U. S.Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested. The Certified mailing was returned to TSPC marked "Unclaimed" the first class mailing was not returned. Mr. Puckett did not request a hearing.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Douglas James Puckett holds a Basic Teaching License with a language arts endorsement issued on November 17, 1997 and valid until June 5, 2001.

 2. On or about December 19, 1997, Douglas Puckett made inappropriate comments to students at Sandy High School where he was serving as a substitute teacher when he told two students who entered the choir room for a legitimate reason to, "Get the hell out, this is my prep".

3. In March 1998, Puckett failed to follow district policies and curriculum at Estacada High School where he was employed as a substitute teacher when he ignored the day's lesson plans, told the class that the teacher's "...lesson plans were stupid so they were not going to do them.", and released the students from school early.

 4. On or about October 8, 1998 Puckett failed to demonstrate skills and professional demeanor at Rex Putnam High School where he was employed as a substitute teacher when he failed to demonstrate skill in the supervision of students; failed to demonstrate skill in establishing and maintaining classroom management that is conducive to learning; and failed to demonstrate skill in using district reasonable rules, regulations and curriculum. On October 4, 1998 he asked, "Are there any hot girls in this class?" and suggested to a female student that if they were married, age difference wouldn't be such a big deal. When confronted by school administrators, he denied making the statements and insisted that he was not that stupid.

- 5. On or about October 26, 1998, Puckett failed to demonstrate skills and professional demeanor at Milwaukie High School where he was serving as a substitute teacher when he failed to demonstrate skill in establishing and maintaining classroom management that is conducive to learning, failed to demonstrate a commitment to use professional judgment; and failed to demonstrate skill in communicating with students. Puckett told the students in first period English that one day, at his sister's house, he smoked a lot of marijuana. He said that a woman came to the door and he wanted to take the woman's clothes off and just, "Do it right there."
  - 6. On October 27, 1998, while substituting at Milwaukie High School, Puckett sought personal gain and sexually harassed AC, a female student, when he told her she stood out in a crowd, that she was a beautiful woman and asked her to see him outside of school for personal reasons.
  - 7. On or about November 13, 1998 and November 20, 1998, Puckett failed to demonstrate skills and professional demeanor at Oregon City High School (Freshman Campus) where he was employed as a substitute teacher when he read comic books in the classroom during instructional time, failed to report to areas he was required to supervise, released students early from classes, continued to send students to the Library and the Computer Lab after students had been sent back to class due to overcrowding, and challenged the class to a push-up contests in which several students competed.

## ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Puckett's conduct as described in the above findings of fact constitutes gross neglect of duty under OAR 584-020-0040(4)(l)(n) and (o).

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Under ORS 342.175 to 190, the Commission may revoke or suspend a license or impose other disciplinary sanctions when an educator violates Standards of Competent and Ethical Performance for Oregon Educators.

1	ORDER
2 3 4	The Commission revokes the Basic Teaching License #282251, issued to Douglas James Puckett, for gross neglect of duty.
5 6 7	Dated this, 1999.
8 9	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
10 11 12 13 14	By: David V. Myton, Executive Director
15 16	NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS
17 18 19 20 21	YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.
22 23 24 25	DVM/cs
26 27	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
28 29 30 31 32	I hereby certify that I served the foregoing order by mailing a true copy thereof certified by me as such by regular U.S. mail and by U.S. Certified Mail with Return Receipt Requested to:
33 34 35 36	Douglas James Puckett 2500 NE 201st Avenue, Unit 48 Fairview, OR 97024-9723
37 38 39	Dated this <u>ab</u> day of <u>May</u> , 1999.
40 41 42 43	By: <u>Harlene A. Smith</u> Charlene A. Smith
44	Secretary to the Commission
45 46	