OCT 21 2002 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 In the Matter of the 4 Administrative License of STIPULATION OF FACTS 5 JERRY LYNN SESSIONS AND ORDER OF REPRIMAND 6 7 8 On or about January 27, 2002, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission 9 (Commission) received a complaint from Kyle McKinney, a teacher at La Grande High School, 10 alleging that Jerry Lynn Sessions (Sessions) former Superintendent, La Grande School District 11 changed the final grade of a student in his class without his knowledge. 12 Mr. Sessions fully cooperated with the Commission's investigation. After review of the 13 matters alleged, Mr. Sessions and the Commission agree that their respective interests, 14 together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts and the 15 imposition of a Public Reprimand. 3 This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the sanction to 17 be imposed. Mr. Sessions 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 forth 19 below. In entering into this stipulation, Mr. Sessions waives the right to a hearing to contest the 20 finding of fact, conclusion of law and order set forth below. 21 This stipulation is contingent upon approval and adoption of the Order by the 22 Commission. If the Commission does not adopt this Order, neither Mr. Sessions nor the 23 Commission are bound by these Stipulations and Mr. Sessions retains all rights to a hearing on

STIPULATION OF FACTS

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the allegations.

1. Mr. Sessions holds a Standard Administrative License valid until January 29, 2007. The Commission has continually licensed Mr. Sessions since August 10, 1984. There are no previous complaints on file with the Commission.

_1	2. Mr. Sessions was employed by La Grande School District as a Superintendent from
	April 14, 1999, until June 29, 2001. Mr. Sessions is currently employed by the Hood River
3	County School District.
4	3. During the 2001-2002 school year, in violation of district policy, Mr. Sessions
5	knowingly agreed to allow a La Grande School Board member's daughter to retake a math test
6	in an effort to improve the final grade. Mr. Sessions submitted a grade change to the registrar
7	indicating that the student's test score improved her math grade.
8	4. Mr. Sessions did not contact the classroom teacher regarding his decision to allow
9	the student to retake the test or the change of grade.
10	5. Mr. Sessions accepts responsibility for his decisions and actions, and acknowledges
11	that they were inappropriate.
12	CONCLUSION OF LAW
13	Mr. Sessions failed to demonstrate a commitment to use professional judgment in violation
4	of OAR 584-020-0010(5) when he chose to become involved in changing the grade of a board
15	member's daughter. Mr. Sessions failed to follow district policy, building policy, rules and
16	regulations pursuant to OAR 584-020-0025(e) when he allowed the student to retake the test
17	and became involved in the student's grade change. This misconduct constitutes Gross
18	Neglect of Duty. The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
19	ORS 342.175.
20	IT IS SO STIPULATED:
21 22 23	Jerry Sessions Date
24 (6 25 26	Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

ORDER The Commission imposes a Public Reprimand on Mr. Sessions. This Stipulation of 3 Facts and Order of Reprimand constitute the reprimand. IT IS SO ORDERED this 10 day of January 2003 4 5 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 6 7 9 Approved as to form: 10 11 12 James M. Brown, OSB #67012 Attorney for Jerry Lynn Sessions 13 [101502]