## BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 1 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 In the Matter of the Teaching License of 4 STIPULATION OF FACTS, PUBLIC REPRIMAND. AND ORDER OF PROBATION **CURTIS WILKINS** 5 6 On or about September 22, 1999, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Curtis Wilkins (Wilkins) in which 7 the Commission proposed to suspend or revoke his teaching license or otherwise impose 8 9 discipline under ORS 342.177. Wilkins was charged with violating the personal space of 10 students and co-worker, using inappropriate verbal comments and engaging in inappropriate physical contact with students. The commission and Wilkins have now reviewed the matters 11 alleged and agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served 12 13 by a stipulation to certain facts, the issuance of a public reprimand and placement on probation 14 for a period of one (1) year. This agreement sets forth the facts upon which the parties have 15 agreed and the sanctions to be imposed. In entering into this stipulation, Wilkins waives his right 16 to a hearing to contest any of the findings set forth below. 17 FINDINGS OF FACT 18 Wilkins denies many of the factual allegations but agrees and stipulates that evidence in 19 the record exists to support the following Findings of Fact: 20 1. Wilkins holds a current standard teaching license valid until November 30, 2000. 21 2. Wilkins was employed as a teacher at Toledo Middle School, Lincoln County School District (District) from 1990 to 1998. 22 /// 23

## Page 1 - STIPULATION OF FACTS, PUBLIC REPRIMAND, AND ORDER OF PROBATION GMC/tjh/GEN56887 Department of Justice 1162 Court Street NE

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1	3.	During February 1998 Wilkins placed his hand on the shoulder of a female co-	
2	worker, Gail	Hill, and leaned close to her to explain something related to his teaching duties.	
3	The co-worke	er later reported the incident as unwelcome and violative of her personal space.	
4	Wilkins apole	ogized for the teacher's discomfort and there were no further incidents of a similar	
5	nature.		
6	4.	During the 1997-98 school year, two female students, CM and MC, stated that,	
7	while assistin	g them in class, Wilkins had leaned over or near to them in a manner that made	
8	them feel uncomfortable. The District concluded that Wilkins violated the personal space of the		
9	two students.	Neither the students nor their parents initiated a complaint against Wilkins.	
10	5.	During the 1997-98 school year a female student, CH, accused Wilkins of	
11	brushing her	buttocks with his hand while she passed him in a crowded doorway. The student's	
12	close friend,	CaC, verified the conduct.	
13	6.	During the 1997-98 school year a student, CoC, complained about being too hot	
14	in Wilkins' cl	ass and asked if she could open an exterior door. Wilkins denied her request and	
15	commented in	n substance that the whole class knew she was "hot" and that she should take her	
16	seat and stop	being disruptive. Wilkins use of the word "hot" was inappropriate under the	
17	circumstance	s and made the student feel uncomfortable.	
18	7.	The School district did not condone Wilkins actions, however the district did not	
19	discipline hin	n for any of the allegations referenced in paragraphs 1 through 6.	
20	Wilki	ns enters into this Stipulation of Facts with the knowledge that the TSPC will adopt	
21	an Order requ	niring the issuance of a public reprimand, placing Wilkins on one (1) year of	
22	probation and	l imposing additional conditions while on probation. This stipulation is contingent	
23	upon the appr	roval and adoption of the Order by the Commission. If the Commission does not	

1	adopt this Order, neither Wilkins nor the Commission are bound by these stipulations and he				
2	retains all rights to a hearing on the allegations.				
3	IT IS SO STIPULATED				
<ul><li>4</li><li>5</li><li>6</li><li>7</li></ul>	Curtis Wilkins  August 18, 2000  Date  David V. Myton, Executive Director  Date				
8	Teacher Standards and Practices Commission				
9	CONCLUSIONS OF LAW				
10	1. In February 1998, Wilkins violated OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) by approaching				
11	Gail Hill, a school counselor, touching her, and invading her personal space.				
12	2. During the 1997-98 academic year, Wilkins violated OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) b				
13	verbal and physical conduct towards female students CM, MC, CH and CoC.				
14	OPINION				
15	In consideration of the fact that Wilkins engaged in misconduct primarily out of a lack of				
16	understanding of the importance of maintaining personal space, the Commission concludes the				
17	sanction of public reprimand and probation is appropriate.				
18	ORDER				
19	The Commission issues a public reprimand against Wilkins. The Findings of Fact,				
20	Conclusion of Law and Order herein shall serve as the public reprimand. Wilkins will also be				
21	placed on probation for a period of one (1) year commencing on the date of this order, subject to				
22	the following conditions:				
23					

1	1. Wilkins shall comply with all Commission requirements, including but not				
2	limited to, those articulated in OAR Chapter 584, Division 20 - the standards for competent and				
3	ethical performance by Oregon educators.				
4	2. Wilkins will notify the Commission's Executive Director of employment as a				
5	licensed teacher in this state or elsewhere and any discipline or investigation occurring while				
6	employed as a teacher and during the period of probation.				
7	3. If Wilkins returns to teaching he will prior to employment or within 30 days				
8	thereof, attend sexual harassment training approved by the Executive Director and at his own				
9	expense of not less than four hours. The Commission will provide Wilkins with a list of persons				
10	who or organizations that conduct training on an individual basis.				
11	4. Wilkins will provide to the Commission such information as requested by the				
12	Executive Director to verify that he has complied with the conditions of probation, including a				
13	statement from his employing district that he has complied with the standards for competent and				
14	ethical performance.				
15	Violation of any terms of probation shall constitute an independent basis for the				
16	Commission to impose discipline on Wilkins' license, after first providing Wilkins notice and ar				
17	opportunity for hearing on the issue of whether he violated probation.				
18	DATED this 28 day of Jept 2000				
19	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION				
20	By: Daring My				
21	David V. Myton, Executive Director				
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1	Approved as to form:	
2	Coingolette of the	8/15/00
3	Elizabeth A. Joffe Attorney for Curtis Wilkins	Date
4	O / O/ A	
5	Hayla (ordy	9-14-00
6	Gary C. Cordy Attorney for TSPC	Date
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