1 2	BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OREGON		
5 6 7 8	In the Matter of the) DEFAULT ORDER OF Educator License of) REVOCATION OF MATTHEW LAURENCE WALKER) LICENSURE		
9	On December 14, 2018, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission		
10	(Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Matthew Laurence Walker		
11	(Walker) in which the Commission charged him with Gross Neglect of Duty and /or		
12	Gross Unfitness. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail		
13	Receipt 7018 0680 0000 1028 3248 to the address on file with the Commission. The		
14	Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima		
15	facie case. The Certified Mail was not returned to the Commission. The regular first		
16	class mail was not returned to the Commission, and assumed delivered. The Notice of		
17	Opportunity of Hearing, dated December 14, 2018, and signed by Anthony Rosilez,		
18	Executive Director, stated:		
19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	"IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE."		
27	Walker did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Walker to be in		
28	default and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order,		
29	based on the files and records of the Commission concerning this matter.		
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31	FINDINGS OF FACT		
32	1. Matthew Walker has been licensed by the Commission since November 20, 2014.		
33	Walker's Preliminary Teaching License, with endorsements in Chemistry (PK-12);		
34	Foundational Mathematics (PK-12); and Integrated Science (PK-12), is valid from		
35	April 30, 2016, through April 29, 2019. During all relevant times, Walker was		
36	employed by the Klamath County School District (KCSD).		
37			

1	2.	On May 24, 2017, the Commission received a report from the Oregon Department of
2		Human Services (DHS) alleging that Walker may have violated professional
3		standards. On May 25, 2017, TSPC received a School District Misconduct Report,
4		alleging similar conduct on Walker's part.
5		
6	3.	Investigation determined that on or about May 22, 2017, during instructional
7		periods of the school day, Walker had taken pictures with his cellular phone of the
8		undergarments of unwitting, minor-aged female students' groin areas while they
9		were sitting at their desks in Walker's classroom. After law enforcement reviewed
10		the photos on Walker's phone, an additional victim, not a student but a family friend,
11		was identified by a photo showing a minor-aged, female in her underwear at
12		Walker's residence. KCSD placed Walker on administrative leave while
13		investigations were conducted.
14		
15	4.	On May 23, 2017, Walker was arrested and charged with five misdemeanor counts of
16		Invasion of Personal Privacy in the Second Degree for unlawfully, knowingly and
17		without consent make or record a photograph or record in visual recording, intimate
18		areas of these minor children. On June 27, 2017, KCSD terminated Walker's
19		employment contract based on his conduct and school district policy violations.
20		
21	5.	On February 7, 2018, Walker waived his right to a jury trial and was found guilty of
22		all five counts by a judge. On April 4, 2018, Walker was sentenced in the Klamath
23		County Circuit Court to five counts of Invasion of Personal Privacy in the Second
24		Degree. Special conditions as part of Walker's probation included submitting to an
25		evaluation by an approved sex offender program. Walker's incarceration included a
26		two hundred (200) day sentence with credit for time served.
27		
28		CONCLUSIONS OF LAW
29		Matthew Walker's conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in
30	vic	olation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-

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020-0010(1) (Recognize the worth and dignity of all persons and respect for each

1	individual), OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment); OAR 584-020-
2	0040(4)(f) (Any sexual conduct with a student) as defined by OAR 584-020-0005(5);
3	OAR 584-020-0040(4)(0) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (Honoring
4	appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times);
5	and OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a)(Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and
6	obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty). Additionally, Walker's
7	criminal convictions and conduct related to Walker's convictions constitutes "gross
8	unfitness" in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c), OAR 584-020-0040(3)(c) and (d) as
9	defined by OAR 584-020-0040 (5) (Gross unfitness is any conduct which renders an
10	educator unqualified to perform his or her professional responsibilities), and OAR 584-
11	020-0040 (5)(e) (Admission of or engaging in acts constituting criminal conduct, even
12	in the absence of a conviction).
13	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based
14	upon ORS 342.175.
15	FINAL ORDER
16	The Commission hereby revokes Matthew L. Walker's Educator license.
17	IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 28 day of January, 2019.
18	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
	By: Anthony J. Rosiles
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20 21	Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director
22	NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS
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24	YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY
25	BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE
26	SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
27	ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.