

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

In the Matter of the) STIPULATION OF FACTS AND
Educator License of) FINAL ORDER OF
DAVID J. WHITTEMORE) PUBLIC REPRIMAND

On February 2, 2023, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received a School District Misconduct Report from the Willamette Education Service District (WESD), alleging possible professional misconduct on the part of licensed educator, David J. Whittemore (Whittemore).

After review of the matters alleged, Whittmore and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts and the imposition of a Public Reprimand on Whittmore's teaching license.

This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the sanction to be imposed. Whittemore stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained in the Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Whittemore waives the right to a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.

By signing below, Whittemore acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Revocation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Whittemore nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promise or representation has been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully

1 advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an
2 attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of
3 the Stipulated Final Order below.

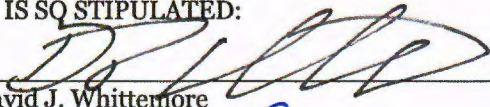
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5 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 6
7 1. The Commission has licensed Whittemore since January 3, 2017. Whittemore
8 currently holds a Preliminary Teaching License with endorsements for Health
9 (PK-12) and Social Studies (PK-12) which was issued on July 16, 2024 and
10 expires on August 22, 2027. During all relevant times, Whittemore was
11 employed by the Willamette Education Service District (WESD) at MacLaren
12 Youth Correctional Center's Lord High School. (MacLaren)
- 13
14 2. On February 2, 2023, TSPC received a School District Misconduct Report
15 from Dave Novotney (Novotney) Superintendent of the WESD. The report
16 alleged that Whittemore had sexually harassed staff and students with
17 sexually inappropriate daily riddles while working at the MacLaren.
- 18
19 3. An investigation into this matter by the Commission, the Oregon Youth
20 Authority (OYA) and WESD determined the following:
- 21
- 22 • On November 29, 2022 Whittemore left a copy of his lesson plan for a
 - 23 substitute teacher which contained a sexually inappropriate riddle.
 - 24 • The substitute teacher discovered the riddle, and a OYA staff
 - 25 member reported the riddle to the school's principal.
 - 26 • The riddle which was to be presented to Whittemore's class read "what
 - 27 goes in hard and dry, but comes out soft and wet?" Answer: "gum."
 - 28 • On December 1, 2022 Whittemore was placed on administrative
 - 29 leave while this matter was investigated.
 - 30 • Investigation determined that on the desktop of Whittemore's work
 - 31 computer was a file titled "daily's" which included multiple
 - 32 inappropriate jokes/riddles. Many of these jokes/riddles were sexual in

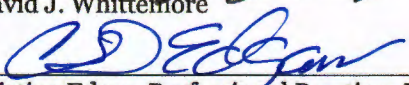
1 nature.

- 2 • During Whittemore's interview with district investigators, Whittemore
3 admitted that approximately 15 of the inappropriate jokes/riddles had
4 been presented to the class.
5 • District investigation determined that the riddles/jokes violated WESD
6 Board Policy GBN/JBA on sexual harassment.
7 • Whittemore resigned his position with the district and MacLaren on
8 January 17, 2023.
9

10
11 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

12 
13 David J. Whittemore

14 5/14/25
Date

15 
16 Cristina Edgar, Professional Practices Director
17 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

18 5/15/25
Date

19
20 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

21 *The conduct described above in section three (3) constitutes gross neglect of duty in*
22 *violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR*
23 *584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment), and OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e)*
24 *(Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations); and OAR 584-020-*
25 *040(4)(l) Sexual Harassment.*
26

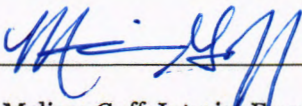
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28 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
29 ORS 342.175.
30

31 **ORDER**

32 The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
33 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand upon David J.
34 Whittemore's Oregon educator license.
35

36 Issued and dated this 26 day of June, 2025.

1 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**
2 **STATE OF OREGON**

3
4 By  _____
5 Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director