1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 In the Matter of the STIPULATION OF FACTS AND 4 Educator License of FINAL ORDER OF 5 PUBLIC REPRIMAND KAI A. AMERSON 6 7 On August 18, 2020, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission 8 (Commission) received a misconduct report from the Morrow County School District 9 (District) indicating possible professional misconduct on the part of licensed educator, 10 Kai A. Amerson (Amerson). 11 After review of the matter alleged, Amerson and the Commission agree that their 12 respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to 13 certain facts and the imposition of a Public Reprimand. 14 This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the 15 sanction to be imposed. In entering into this stipulation, Amerson waives the right to a 16 hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below. 17 By signing below, Amerson acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to 18 the following: (i) Amerson has been fully advised of Amerson's rights to a hearing to 19 contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and 20 finally waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this 21 Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Public Reprimand (Stipulation and Final Order); 22 (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public 23 upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent 24 upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does 25 not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Amerson nor the 26 Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) Amerson has fully read this Stipulation 27 and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) Amerson voluntarily, without any 28 force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and 29 entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) Amerson states that no promise or 30 representation has been made to induce Amerson to sign this Stipulation and Final 31 Order; and (vii) Amerson has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and 32 Final Order and has been fully advised with regard to Amerson's rights thereto, or waives 33 any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and 34 Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below.

STIPULATION OF FACTS

The Commission has licensed Amerson since October 28, 2019. Amerson
currently holds a Preliminary Teaching License, with an endorsement in Music
(PK-12), valid from September 8, 2020 through September 18, 2023. During all
relevant times, Amerson was an applicant with the Morrow County School
District.

2. On August 18, 2020, the Commission received a misconduct report from the District indicating Amerson may have committed an act of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness. Specifically, it was reported that Amerson was not truthful when answering questions regarding Amerson's past criminal history on an employment application.

3. Investigation determined that on June 1, 2020, Amerson had applied for a teacher position with the District. On Amerson's application, Amerson answered "No" to a character question related to prior criminal history. On June 15, 2020, the District hired Amerson based on Amerson's application and character question answers, and pending the outcome of a background/criminal history check. On July 7, 2020, Amerson signed a consent form for the District to conduct a background/criminal history check.

 4. Within two weeks after receiving Amerson's consent to conduct a background/criminal history check, the District found that Amerson had a criminal history. The District learned Amerson had been cited for Disorderly Conduct on March 23, 2018, by the Ellensburg Police Department in Washington. On April 15, 2018, Amerson accepted a plea agreement and plead guilty to the misdemeanor charge. Amerson was placed on unsupervised probation for one (1) year, given three (3) days of community service, and a fine. Amerson completed the full term of probation and community service without incident and paid the fine.

5. On July 21, 2021, the District rescinded their job offer because Amerson failed to meet their criteria for employment.

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1	IT IS SO STIPULATED:
2	1-15-2022 Date Dame Date D
2 3 4 5	Kai A. Amerson Date
5	Trent Danowski, Deputy Director Date
6 7	Trent Danowski, Deputy Director Date Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
8	
9	CONCLUSION OF LAW
10	The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
11	342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use
12	professional judgment); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(0) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-
13	0035(3)(a) (Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law,
14	exemplifying personal integrity and honesty); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c)
15	(Falsification of any document or knowing misrepresentation directly related to
16	licensure, employment, or professional duties). This conduct also constitutes gross
17	unfitness in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(b) (Fraud or
18	misrepresentation).
19	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
20	ORS 342.175.
21	
22	ORDER
23	The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
24	conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on Kai A. Amerson's
25	Oregon educator license.
26	
27	Issued and dated this day of February, 2022.
28	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
29	STATE OF OREGON
30	
31	By Styling
32	Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director