

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

In the Matter of the)
Educator License of)
NATHANIEL C. MILLER-RIDER)

On March 10, 2022, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Nathaniel C. Miller-Rider, (Miller-Rider) in which the Commission charged him with Gross Neglect of Duty and /or Gross Unfitness. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7021 0350 0000 8183 8275 to the address on file with the Commission. The Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima facie case. An additional copy was sent to the address on file for Miller-Rider's attorney, Noah Barish. The regular first-class mail was not returned to the Commission and assumed delivered. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated March 10, 2022, and signed by Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director, stated:

“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, WITHDRAW YOUR REQUEST FOR HEARING, OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, OR NOTIFY THE COMMISSION THAT YOU WILL NOT APPEAR AT HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE.”

Miller-Rider's attorney, Noah Barish, responded requesting a hearing, but later indicated to the Commission that Miller-Rider would withdraw his request and default. The Commission, therefore, finds Miller-Rider to be in default and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order, based on the files and records of the Commission concerning this matter.

FINDING OF FACT

1. The Commission has licensed Miller-Rider since January 31, 2018. Miller-Rider currently hold a Preliminary Teaching License, with endorsements in Advanced Mathematics (PK-12) and Physics (PK-12), valid from November 30, 2018, through

1 November 16, 2022. During all relevant times, Miller-Rider was employed by the
2 Portland Public School District (PPSD).

3
4 2. On November 15, 2021, the Commission received a Department of Human Services –
5 Child Welfare (DHS) cross-report alleging misconduct by Nathaniel Miller-Rider an
6 educator at McDaniel High School (MHS) in the PPSD. The report alleged that
7 Miller-Rider engaged in a consensual sexual relationship with a 17- year-old student
8 identified as [REDACTED] from approximately January 2021 to June of 2021. It was also
9 alleged that the relationship included Miller-Rider sharing sexually explicit photos
10 and texts with [REDACTED]

11
12 3. Investigation into this matter conducted by PPSD determined that the allegations
13 above were substantiated via witness testimony and documentary evidence. The
14 investigation yielded the following:

- 15
16 • PPSD became aware of the allegations against Miller-Rider on November
17 15, 2021.
- 18 • Miller-Rider was immediately placed on administrative leave pending the
19 outcome of the PPSD/Commission investigation.
- 20 • [REDACTED] was a student at MHS from August 2017 to June 2021.
- 21 • [REDACTED] was one of Miller-Rider's students while she attended MHS.
- 22 • [REDACTED] was a student in Miller-Rider's physics class her junior year, (2019-
23 2020 school year).
- 24 • [REDACTED] was a Teaching Assistant (TA) for Miller-Rider's physics class her
25 senior year, (2020-2021 school year.)
- 26 • Miller-Rider shared personal information about himself and gave [REDACTED]
27 gifts from November 2020 to June of 2021.
- 28 • During the 2020-2021 school year, Miller-Rider began communicating
29 with [REDACTED] on social media, Snapchat, and text message outside of school.

- In December of 2020, Miller-Rider told [REDACTED] that he had broken up with his girlfriend and invited her to come over to his temporary residence, a rented Airbnb property in Portland, Oregon.
- Miller-Rider began spending time with [REDACTED] at his residences, watching movies, and hanging out.
- Miller-Rider began texting [REDACTED] sexually inappropriate messages via text and Snapchat. The conversations were sexually explicit and included photographs.
- In January of 2021, Miller-Rider began engaging in sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral and digital penetration) with [REDACTED] at his residence in Portland, Oregon.
- Miller-Rider stopped engaging in sex with [REDACTED] in June of 2021.
- On November 15, 2021, after being placed on administrative leave and learning of the investigation into this matter, Miller-Rider contacted [REDACTED] via Snapchat using an account under a different name, and discussed the allegations with [REDACTED].
- On November 15, 2021, PPSD placed Miller-Rider on leave pending the outcome of the PPSD and the Commission investigations.

4. On December 15, 2021, the Commission was contacted by Miller-Rider's attorney, Noah Barish. Barish wrote to the Commission to notify the agency that he was Miller-Rider's retained legal counsel. Commission investigative staff responded to the email, asking to schedule an interview. On December 16, 2021, the Commission received a response from Barish advising the Commission that Miller-Rider would be "declining to participate" in an interview or investigation with the Commission. Commission investigative staff responded to the message notifying Miller-Rider and his attorney that by declining to participate in the investigation could result in Miller-Rider receiving additional sanctions against his Oregon educator's license for failing to cooperate with Commission investigation. Miller-Rider's attorney acknowledged the Commission's explanation and repeated that Miller-Rider elected not to interview with the Commission.

1
2 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

3 The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
4 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(1)
5 (*Recognize the worth and dignity of all persons and respect for each individual*), OAR
6 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using*
7 *district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it
8 incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(b) (*Refrain from exploiting professional*
9 *relationships with any student for personal gain, or in support of persons or issues*),
10 OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A) (*Not demonstrating or expressing professionally*
11 *inappropriate interest in a student's personal life*), and OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D)
12 (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations*
13 *at all times*).

14
15 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based
16 upon ORS 342.175.

17 **FINAL ORDER**

18 The Commission hereby revokes Miller-Rider's teaching license.

19
20 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 13th day of May, 2022.

21
22 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**

23 By: Anthony J. Rosilez
24 Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director
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26 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

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28 **YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY**
29 **BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE**
30 **SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF**
31 **ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.**