

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

In the Matter of the )  
Educator License of )  
ZACHARY A. BRANDSEN )  
STIPULATION OF FACTS AND  
FINAL ORDER OF  
PUBLIC REPRIMAND

On December 27, 2021, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) staff reviewed licensure information for Zachary A. Brandsen (Brandsen) and learned Brandsen may have engaged in professional misconduct. Specifically, there was information indicating Brandsen may have been teaching for extended periods without a valid Oregon teaching license.

After review of the matters alleged, Brandsen 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.

This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the sanction to be imposed. Brandsen 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, Brandsen waives the right to a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.

By signing below, Brandsen acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to 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 Public Reprimand (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 Brandsen 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.

4  
5 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 6 1. The Commission has licensed Brandsen since August 4, 2016. Brandsen holds a  
7 Charter School Registry with an endorsement in Teacher (PK-12), valid from  
8 September 14, 2023, through January 5, 2027. Brandsen also holds a Preliminary  
9 Teaching License with an endorsement in Social Studies (PK-12), valid from  
10 March 18, 2024, through January 5, 2028. During all relevant times, Brandsen  
11 was employed by the Pendleton School District (PSD).  
12
- 13 2. On March 22, 2023, the Commission received information from an internal  
14 referral indicating Brandsen may have committed acts which constitute gross  
15 neglect of duty. Specifically, it was reported Brandsen was teaching without a  
16 valid Oregon teaching license since 2021.  
17
- 18 3. Investigation determined that Brandsen has been employed as a teacher by the  
19 Pendleton School district since the 2015-16 school year. The Commission issued  
20 Brandsen a Restricted Substitute Teaching License, valid from August 3, 2016,  
21 through June 29, 2017, and then later issued him a Restricted Teaching License,  
22 valid from October 21, 2016, through June 29, 2017. The Commission issued  
23 Brandsen a second Restricted Teaching License, valid from February 6, 2019,  
24 through June 30, 2020. The Commission issued Brandsen a third Restricted  
25 Teaching License, valid from July 30, 2020, through June 30, 2021. In October  
26 2021, March 2022, and October 2022, Brandsen made application for licensure  
27 but did not meet the requirements for a Preliminary Teaching License. For the  
28 entire 2017-18 and 2021-22 school years, Brandsen taught without a valid Oregon  
29 teaching license. For extended periods during the 2018-19 and 2022-23 school  
30 years, Brandsen taught without a valid Oregon teaching license.

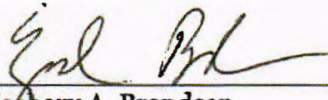
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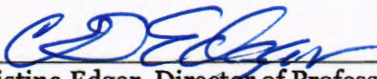
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1 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

2   
3  
4 Zachary A. Brandsen

3-7-25  
Date

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6   
7  
8 Cristina Edgar, Director of Professional Practice  
9 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

3/11/2025  
Date

10  
11 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

12 Zachary A. Brandsen's conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty  
13 in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-  
14 020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates  
15 OAR 584-050-0035(1) (*Any person employed in a position in a school district,*  
16 *education service district, or charter school for which a license or registration is*  
17 *required pursuant to ORS Chapter 342, must hold a valid license or registration*  
18 *appropriate for the assignment while working as a public school, education service*  
19 *district or charter school employee*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(r) (*Working without a*  
20 *license*)


21 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon  
22 ORS 342.175.

23  
24 **ORDER**

25 The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and  
26 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on Zachary A.  
27 Brandsen's Oregon educator license.

28  
29 Issued and dated this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.

30 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**  
31 **STATE OF OREGON**

32  
33 By   
34 Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director