

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

In the Matter of the)
Educator License of)
TIFFANY M. LOCEY)

On June 6, 2023, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received a report from the Morrow County School District (District) indicating Tiffany M. Locey (Locey) may have committed an act of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness. Specifically, District reported Locey failed to supervise students traveling to and from a track meet; misrepresented her actions to staff; and allowed her absence to be improperly recorded.

After review of the matters alleged, Locey 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 thirty (30) day suspension.

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

By signing below, Locey acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following: (i) she has been fully advised of her 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 Suspension (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 Locey nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) she has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) she 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) she states that no promise or representation has been made to induce her to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) she has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully advised with regard to her rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior

1 to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated
2 Final Order below.

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4 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 5 1. The Commission has licensed Locey since December 15, 2019. Locey holds a
6 Preliminary Teaching License with endorsements in Physical Education (PK-12)
7 and Health (PK-12) valid from January 14, 2025, through January 13, 2028.
8 Locey also holds a License of Conditional Assignment (LCA) with an
9 endorsement in Elementary – Multiple Subjects (PK-12) valid from December 2,
10 2024, through June 30, 2025. During all relevant times, Locey was employed by
11 the Morrow County School District (MCSD).
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- 13 2. On June 6, 2023, the Commission received a School District Misconduct Report
14 from the MCSD indicating Locey may have committed acts which constitute gross
15 neglect of duty. Specifically, the MCSD reported Locey failed to supervise
16 students traveling to and from a track meet; misrepresented her actions to staff;
17 and allowed her absence to be recorded as coaching rather than having it reflect
18 the appropriate leave for attending a funeral.
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- 20 3. Investigation found a student's mother passed and the funeral was scheduled to occur
21 in the Portland area on a school day, April 27, 2023. Locey was close to the student
22 and supported the student when the student was having difficult family
23 circumstances. Locey planned to travel to the funeral with the student, Locey's son,
24 and two other students. The students were all high-school aged.
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- 26 4. Investigation found that on April 27, 2023, a school day, the Irrigon Junior/Senior
27 High School track team was scheduled to travel by bus to Milton-Freewater for a track
28 meet. On April 27, 2023, Locey was on campus at the start of the school day and was
29 present when the track team and an assistant coach boarded a bus for the meet. Locey
30 briefly got on the bus and then exited the bus. The bus departed for the meet at
31 approximately 9:30 AM.
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- 33 5. Investigation found that on April 27, 2023, shortly after the bus with the track team
34 and assistant coach departed the campus, Locey left campus, picked up students in

1 her personal automobile and began traveling to the Portland area to attend the
2 funeral. As required by district policy, Locey failed to meet the requirements for
3 transporting students in her personal vehicle. At approximately 9:50 AM, a parent of
4 a student on the track team texted Locey about her not being on the bus.
5 Approximately ten (10) to fifteen (15) minutes later, the same parent contacted the
6 school about this. A district staff member checked the records and saw Locey's entry
7 for work hours that day annotated as of a full day of coaching. The staff member
8 texted Locey asking if Locey was on the bus. Locey responded by text, writing she
9 recently found out about a funeral and forgot to tell staff she would not be on the bus.
10 The Irrigon Junior/Senior High School principal texted Locey to see if she was on the
11 bus. Locey responded by text, writing she was not on the bus, and she was driving to
12 La Grande to attend the funeral.

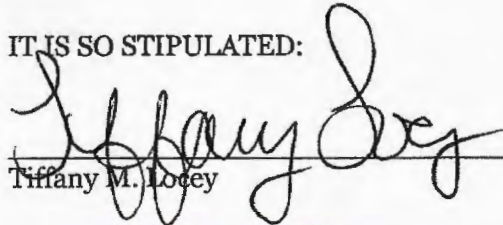
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14 6. Investigation found that after the text exchange with staff, Locey arranged for some of
15 the students to continue traveling to the funeral in another vehicle with another
16 person traveling to the Portland area to attend the funeral. Locey and a student, who
17 was no longer going to attend the funeral, returned to Irrigon and Locey dropped the
18 student off at the student's residence. Locey then drove to Milton-Freewater, arriving
19 at approximately 1:00 PM to coach the track team.


20
21 7. Investigation found that at approximately 1:15 PM, Locey received a text from the
22 Irrigon High School principal about parents concerned the track team was
23 unsupervised. Locey responded by text that she was no longer going to attend the
24 funeral, and she would ride the bus home with the students. After the track meet
25 ended, the team and assistant coach got on the bus and departed, stopped for a team
26 dinner, and arrived in Irrigon at approximately 7:00PM. Locey did not ride on the
27 bus or attend the team dinner, and instead she proceeded in her personal automobile
28 directly from Milton-Freewater to her residence.

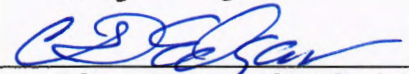
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30 8. Investigation found that on May 12, 2023, during the MCSD's third party
31 investigation, Locey admitted to not being honest in her first interview with an
32 investigator. Locey admitted that her intention on April 27, 2023, was to attend the
33 funeral and only after communicating with staff and parents did she decide to forego
34 the funeral and attend the track meet.

1 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

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Tiffany M. Locey

 5/20/25
Date


Cristin Edgar, Director of Professional Practices
Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

5/22/25
Date

CONCLUSION OF LAW

The conduct described in section four (4) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0020(2)(d) (*Skill in the supervision of students*).

The conduct described in section five (5) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*), and 584-020-0030(2)(b) (*Skill in communicating with administrators, students, staff, parents and other patrons*).

The conduct described in section six (6) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0020(2)(d) (*Skill in the supervision of students*).

The conduct described in section seven (7) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0020(2)(d) (*Skill in the supervision of students*), and 584-020-0030(2)(b) (*Skill in communicating with administrators, students, staff, parents and other patrons*).

The conduct described in section eight (8) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0030(2)(b) (*Skill in communicating with administrators, students, staff, parents, and other patrons*).

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

1 **ORDER**

2 The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
3 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a thirty (30) day suspension upon
4 Tiffany M. Locey's Oregon educator license.

5 Furthermore, Locey is subject to the following conditions prior to reinstatement
6 of her Oregon educator license:

- 7 1. Locey shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of
8 Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division
9 020.

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11 Issued and dated this 24 day of June, 2025.

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13 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**
14 **STATE OF OREGON**

15
16
17 By  _____

18 Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director