

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

In the Matter of the Educator	)	DEFAULT ORDER OF
License of	)	PUBLIC REPRIMAND
PIOLI, DONNA J.	)	AND PROBATION

On June 30, 2026, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Donna J. Pioli (Pioli) in which the Commission charged her with Gross Neglect of Duty. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 9589 0710 5270 2978 6295 25 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. The certified mail receipt was returned to TSPC on July 10, 2026 and confirmed delivered via signature. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated June 30, 2026, and signed by Rachel Alpert, 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, 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.”

On July 20, 2026 Pioli emailed TSPC indicating that she had retired and did not wish to contest the Commission’s decision. TSPC responded to Pioli’s email attempting to confirm her desire to allow the case to default. As of the writing of this order, Pioli has not responded to TSPC. The Commission, therefore, finds Pioli 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.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Commission has licensed Pioli since August 1, 2010. Pioli holds a Professional Teaching License, with endorsements in Elementary- Multiple Subjects (PK-12) and Special Education: Generalist (PK-12) which was valid from July 16, 2020 to July 15,

2025. During all relevant times, Pioli was employed by the Greater Albany School District (GASD).

2. On November 8, 2023, the Commission received a School District Misconduct Report from the GASD. The report alleges that Pioli, a teacher at the GASD, had been investigated for “physically handling” a student.
3. Investigation by the GASD and TSPC determined the following:
 - Pioli worked as a teacher in the GASD during the 2023-2024 school year.
 - On or about October of 2023, Student A wandered behind Pioli’s desk in her classroom.
 - Student A did not heed Pioli’s verbal directives to leave the space.
 - Witnesses report that Pioli moved Student A from the area in a “jerking motion.”
 - On or about October of 2023, Student B was hiding under a desk.
 - Witnesses report that Pioli physically removed Student B from under the desk by pulling on him.
 - Witnesses report that the physical techniques Pioli used with Student A and Student B were not approved MANDT techniques for physically engaging students.
 - During Pioli’s interview with TSPC investigative staff regarding these incidents on March 26, 2026, Pioli reported that the stress of COVID and lack of support from the district contributed to her having a “poor state of mind.” Pioli admitted to pulling Student B from under the desk and to physically moving Student A out of her space, but stated that she didn’t remember how exactly she had done this.
 - Pioli concluded her interview with TSPC by expressing regret in how she handled these matters and stated that in hindsight she would have done things different.
 - Pioli’s employment with the GASD was terminated after she and the district failed to agree upon the details of a resignation agreement.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct described in sections two (2), and three (3) 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); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times).

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

FINAL ORDER

The Commission hereby issues a public reprimand and two (2) years of probation upon Pioli's Oregon educator license. The period of probation will become effective on the date of adoption of this default order. The period of probation is subject to the following conditions:

1. Pioli shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division 020.
2. Pioli shall complete a Commission approved restraint course before the completion of the two (2) year probation period.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 17 day of August, 2026.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 
Rachel Alpert, Executive Director

NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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