

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

In the Matter of the	)	DEFAULT ORDER OF
Educator License of	)	REVOCATION AND REVOKE
MEDINA, RAFAEL E.	)	RIGHT TO APPLY

On June 30, 2026, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Rafael E. Medina (Medina). The Commission charged him 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 6294 40 to Medina’s last known address on file with the Commission. The notice was also sent certified mail to your attorney. The Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima facie case. The Notice sent to your attorney was returned as confirmed “delivered” on July 8, 2026. 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, 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.”

As of the writing of this Default Order, Medina nor his attorney have responded. The Commission, therefore, finds Medina 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 Medina since March 1, 2022. Medina currently holds a Restricted School Counselor License with an endorsement for School Counselor (PK-12), which was issued on July 26, 2024, and expired on June 30, 2025. During all relevant times, Medina was employed by the Hillsboro School District (HSD).

2. On June 28, 2024, the Commission received an Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS/OTIS) referral regarding Medina. A second OTIS referral was received by TSPC on October 18, 2024, and a third was received on June 18, 2025. On February 19, 2025, the Commission received a School District Misconduct Report from the Hillsboro School District. All of these reports allege that Medina engaged professional misconduct while working the capacity of a counselor and coach at the HSD. Specifically, the report alleges that Medina engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a student, Student X. Additionally, the reports allege that Medina engaged in inappropriate physical touching with students, communicated with them outside of school using text/social media messaging, and engaged in inappropriate, highly personal (occasionally sexual) conversations with students. Finally, the reports allege that Medina sent students a photo of himself dressed only in underwear.
3. Investigation into this matter by law enforcement, the HSD and TSPC determined the following:
 - Medina worked as a guidance counselor and girls' wrestling coach at the Hillsboro High School (HHS) for the HSD during the 2024-2025 school year.
 - During the 2024-2025 school year, the incidents that follow occurred.
 - Multiple witnesses report that Medina communicated with students, including Student X, outside of school using text messages and the social media application WhatsApp.
 - Multiple witnesses report that Medina used WhatsApp to send students a photo of himself dressed only in boxer shorts.
 - Witnesses report that Medina engaged in overly personal conversations with multiple students, including Student X, sharing information about his personal sex life, and talking about sex.
 - Witnesses report that Medina frequently gave students unauthorized rides in his personal car.
 - Witnesses report that Medina made inappropriate comments about students' bodies to multiple students. It was reported that Medina made comments about students' breast and buttocks sizes.

- Witnesses report that Medina frequently complimented female students with compliments such as “your butt looks good” or “your boob look good in that.”
- Witnesses report that Medina told Student X that her “butt looked good.”
- Multiple witnesses report that Medina had an inappropriate relationship with Student X, a minor aged female on his wrestling team.
- Witnesses report that Medina gave Student X extra attention, spent time with her alone in his classroom behind closed doors, with the blinds on the classroom windows closed.
- Witnesses report that Medina gave Student X his debit/credit card to use.
- Witnesses report that Medina would frequently touch Student X, give her massages on her upper thighs, back, legs, and neck.
- Witnesses report that Medina would frequently be alone with Student X in the “wrestling room closet.”
- Witnesses report that sometimes these meetings between Medina and Student X in the closet would last a few minutes, other times the meetings would last “half” the wrestling practice session.
- Witnesses report that Medina was very “touchy” with Student X, and that he and Student X always kissed one another on the cheek and embraced when saying goodbye at the end of practice.
- Witnesses report that Medina and Student X had a “secret” language that the two of them used to communicate. In some of the messages Medina exchanged with Student X, he would refer to her as “mama” or Mamita”.
- Additionally, witnesses report that Medina sent messages to Student X that said “love you.”
- A witness reports seeing Medina and Student X kissing in public in front of a concession stand at HHS on or about February 12, 2025.
- Witnesses report that Student X spent time in Medina’s hotel room during a 4-day wrestling tournament trip to Fargo, North Dakota.
- Witnesses report seeing Medina and Student X “cuddling” or “spooning” on multiple occasions at school, during school hours.
- Witnesses report seeing Medina adjust Student X’s spandex clothing so it would be more fitting to her buttocks.

- Witnesses report seeing Medina speaking to Student X on his personal cell phone on several occasions.
 - Witnesses report that Medina watched Student X change clothing in the wrestling closet. Witnesses report that while Student X changed her clothes, Medina continued to have a conversation with her.
 - Law Enforcement investigated this matter, but no criminal charges were filed.
 - The HSD determined that Medina violated several district policies regarding physical touching of students, boundaries with students, unauthorized communication with students, and unauthorized transportation of students.
 - On May 20, 2026, Medina resigned his position with the HSD via a separation agreement.
4. On February 3, 2026, TSPC investigative staff sent Medina a Request to Interview Letter through his attorney, Jason Weyland. On February 17, 2026, Weyland indicated that Medina was willing to voluntarily surrender his teaching license but indicated that Medina was not willing to engage in an interview with TSPC investigators.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct described in section three (3) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(f) (Any sexual conduct with a student) as defined by OAR 584-020-0005(8) and ORS 339.370(12)(a); 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 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations), and 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).

Additionally, 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)(p) (Subject to the exercise

of any legal right or privilege, failure or refusal by an educator under investigation to respond to requests for information, to furnish documents or to participate in interviews with a Commission representative relating to a Commission investigation).

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

FINAL ORDER

The Commission hereby revokes Medina's Oregon teaching license and revokes his right to apply for a license.

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