

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

In the Matter of the)
Teaching License of)
CHRISTINE A. JENKINS)

DEFAULT ORDER OF
REVOCATION OF RIGHT TO
APPLY FOR TEACHING LICENSE

On January 4, 2011, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Christine A. Jenkins (Jenkins) which the Commission charged her with Gross Neglect of Duty pursuant and Gross Unfitness to OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n), OAR 584-020-0010(5), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(b), OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(B), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D), OAR 584-020-0035(2)(e), OAR 584-020-0040(4)(e), OAR 584-020-0040(4)(f), and OAR 584-020-0040(5)(e). The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7010 0290 0001 6831 4978 to the address on file with the Commission. The Certified Mail was returned to the Commission, marked as unclaimed and unable to forward. The regular mail was not returned to the Commission. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated January 4, 2011, and signed by Victoria Chamberlain, 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 OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE.”

Jenkins did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Jenkins to be in default and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, based on the files and records of the Commission concerning this matter.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Commission has licensed Christine Jenkins as a teacher in Oregon since August 9, 2000. Jenkins' current Initial II Teaching License, with endorsements in Language Arts (HS, ML) and Multiple Subjects (MIDLVL), issued on December 23, 2007, expired on December 22, 2010. During all relevant times, Jenkins was employed by the Portland Public School District.

- 1 2. During the 2008-09 school year, Jenkins engaged in the following conduct with a male
2 student:
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4 a. sending personal communications to the student via Facebook instant-messaging,
5 and by phone;
6 b. exchanging romantic and personal notes with the student and developing a code for
7 communicating with him;
8 c. hugging the student to express her gratitude for his collaboration on a time-
9 consuming school project, which the student interpreted as being inappropriate;
10 d. communicating with the student seeking advice concerning romantic feelings Jenkins
11 had for a staff member and joked about methods of harassment against a colleague;
12 and,
13 e. Being alone with the student on multiple occasions.
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15 3. During the 2008-09 school year, Jenkins also held the male student's hand and kissed
16 him on the cheek.
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18 4. Jenkins utilized school district computer equipment to send some of the communications
19 referred to in paragraph 2.
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21 5. During the 2008-09 school year, Jenkins took students into an isolated, off-limits
22 underground school service tunnel and took part in an act of graffiti.
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24 6. During the course of the Commission investigation, the Commission discovered
25 information indicating that Jenkins had a sexual relationship with a male minor some
26 years earlier, prior to her teaching career.

27 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

28 Christine A. Jenkins' conduct described in paragraph 2 above constitutes gross neglect
29 of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-
30 020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-
31 020-0035(1)(c)(B) (*Not accepting or giving or exchanging romantic or overly personal gifts or*
32 *notes with a student*), and OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries*
33 *with students in conduct and conversations at all times*).

34 Jenkins' conduct as described in paragraph 3 above constitutes gross neglect of duty in
35 violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-
36 0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-
37 0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and*
38 *conversations at all times*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(f) (*Any sexual conduct with a student*).

39 Jenkins' conduct as described in paragraph 4 above constitutes gross neglect of duty in
40 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 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(B) (*Not accepting or giving or exchanging romantic or overly personal gifts or notes with a student*), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times*), and OAR 584-020-0035(2)(e) (*Not use the district's or school's name, property, or resources for non-educational benefit or purposes without approval of the educator's supervisor or the appointing authority*).

Jenkins' conduct as described in paragraph 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*), and OAR 584-020-0025(2)(b) (*Using and maintaining district property, equipment, and materials appropriately*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(B) (*Not accepting or giving or exchanging romantic or overly personal gifts or notes with a student*), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(e) (*Violent or destructive behavior on school premises or at a school-sponsored activity*).

Jenkins conduct as described in paragraph 6 above constitutes gross unfitness in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(e) (*Admission of or engaging in acts constituting criminal conduct, even in the absence of a conviction*).

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

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FINAL ORDER

1 The Commission hereby revokes Christine A. Jenkins' right to apply for an educator
2 license.

3 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 11th day of February, 2011.

4 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

5
6 By: 
7
8 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
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13 NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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