

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

In the Matter of the)
Teaching License of)
NANCY R. BLUM)

On December 30, 2011, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Nancy R. Blum (Blum) in which the Commission charged her with Gross Neglect of Duty pursuant to ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(g); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(b). The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7010 2780 0000 2187 4320 to the address on file with the Commission. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated December 30, 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.”

Blum did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Blum 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. Blum has been licensed as a teacher in Oregon since September 4, 1986. Her current Standard Teaching License, with an endorsement in Standard Speech Impaired (18), issued on November 1, 2009, is valid until October 31, 2014. During all relevant times, Blum was employed by the Reynolds School District.
2. On November 22, 2010, Blum left an offsite meeting at approximately noon and went to a restaurant/bar for lunch. Blum remained at the bar while she consumed multiple alcoholic beverages until approximately 2:30 p.m. Blum had student responsibility scheduled during the time she spent drinking at the bar. Blum drove while intoxicated as she returned to school property at approximately 2:30 p.m. Blum contacted several staff members, students and administrators upon

1 her return. Blum was visibly intoxicated and exhibited inappropriate behaviors such as talking
2 loudly, speaking with expletives, flailing around on the office floor, knocking things over and she
3 smelled of alcohol. A district investigation was conducted and Blum resigned in lieu of termination.

4 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

5 Blum's conduct described in section two (2) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in
6 violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-
7 0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(g) (*Appearing on duty or at any*
8 *district-sponsored activity while under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance*);
9 OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain the dignity of*
10 *the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and*
11 *honesty*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(b) (*Knowing and substantial unauthorized use of*
12 *employment time or school resources for private purposes*).

13 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
14 342.175.

15 FINAL ORDER

16 The Commission hereby suspends Nancy R. Blum's teaching license in Oregon for a
17 period of one (1) year, to begin upon the date this order is signed and in effect. Furthermore,
18 upon any successful reinstatement of her license, Blum will be placed on four (4), years of
19 probation.

20 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 5th day of April, 2012.

21 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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23
24 By 
25 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
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29 NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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