

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

3
4 In the Matter of the Educator License of) DEFAULT ORDER OF
5 JOSEPH RILEY DABBS) PUBLIC REPRIMAND
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8 On December 19, 2013, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission)
9 issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Joseph Riley Dabbs (Dabbs) in which the
10 Commission charged him with Gross Neglect of Duty. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class
11 Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7012 1010 0003 2804 2421 to the address on file with the
12 Commission. The Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a
13 prima facie case. The Certified Mail was returned to the Commission signed as received, on
14 December 26, 2013. The regular mail was not returned to the Commission. The Notice of
15 Opportunity of Hearing, dated December 19, 2013, and signed by Victoria Chamberlain,
16 Executive Director, stated:

17 "IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY PERIOD,
18 YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED UNLESS YOUR
19 FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR REASONABLE CONTROL.
20 IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A
21 HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY
22 INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER
23 DISCIPLINE."
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25 Dabbs did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Dabbs to be in default and
26 enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order, based on the files and
27 records of the Commission concerning this matter.

28 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 29 1. Joseph Riley Dabbs has been licensed by the Commission since March 22, 2005. Dabbs'
30 Initial I Teaching License, with an endorsement in Physical Education (ML/HS; ECE/ELE
31 L), was issued October 2, 2013, and expires on March 23, 2017. Dabbs' Career and Technical
32 Education License, with endorsements in Information and Communications (CTE/HS) and
33 Visual Performing and Media (CTE/HS), was issued on May 12, 2012, and expires on May 4,
34 2015. During all relevant times, Dabbs was employed by the Jackson County School District.
- 35 2. On April 30, 2012, the Commission was notified by the Jackson County School District that Dabbs
36 may have violated professional standards by the misuse of sick time. The Commission conducted an
37 investigation and learned that on February 29, 2012, the Jackson County School District issued
38 Dabbs a disciplinary memorandum, including a one day suspension without pay, for Dabbs' misuse
39 of district sick time, failing to follow district policy and directives related to accurate and timely

1 accounting of his time off and absences, and a history of exhibiting poor judgment as documented in
2 previous written reprimands and directives. Commission investigation determined that on
3 February 9, 2012, Dabbs took a full day of work off as "Personal Illness". Dabbs admitted to
4 investigators that on this date, he arranged and attended a personal meeting with an administrator
5 of another high school. Dabbs' meeting was to promote the free software product "The Dot," which
6 Dabbs was personally associated with and is not related to his school district employment.

7 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

8 Dabbs's conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
9 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use*
10 *professional judgment*), and OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable*
11 *rules and regulations*).

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

14 FINAL ORDER

15 The Commission hereby issues a Public Reprimand upon Joseph Riley Dabbs' educator
16 licenses.

17 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 20th day of February, 2014.

18 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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By: 

Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director

23 NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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