

1 of unnecessary physical force with students. Investigations by the Commission and
2 school officials identified the following unprofessional conduct:

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4 a. On multiple occasions during the time period between December 2012 and June
5 of 2013, Gilmore Jones was observed grabbing students by the arms and jerking,
6 pulling, pushing, and yanking the students. Others observed Gilmore Jones
7 pulling students by the earlobe to direct a student or gain their attention. On
8 other occasions, it was reported that Gilmore Jones employed unapproved or
9 unnecessary control techniques on students, including sitting on students, laying
10 on students, bear hugging students and wrapping her legs around students.
11 Gilmore Jones would inaccurately report many of these events as “sensory
12 strategies” rather than physical restraints.

13 b. On May 28, 2013, Gilmore Jones removed an enraged student from the
14 classroom by dragging them by the ankles and pulling them out of the classroom,
15 down the hallway, and outside the building. Once outside, Gilmore Jones
16 engaged the student in a bear hug until the student went limp. In Gilmore Jones’
17 restraint/seclusion report, Gilmore Jones misrepresented her actions. In
18 interviews, Gilmore Jones admitted she had not employed approved intervention
19 systems as required by policy.

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21 3. On June 6, 2013, Gilmore Jones was observed grabbing a student by the arm and
22 yanking him into his seat. Gilmore Jones’ actions left visible red marks on the
23 student’s arm. School officials reported the incident to DHS as possible child abuse.
24

25 4. On June 21, 2013, Gilmore Jones resigned her employment in part due to a continued
26 pattern of inappropriate physical force against students.

27 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

28 LaVeta Ann Gilmore Jones engaged in unprofessional conduct as described above.
29 This conduct constitutes Gross Neglect of Duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-
30 020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(1) (*Recognize the worth and dignity*
31 *of all persons and respect for each individual*), OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional*

1 judgment), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and*
2 *regulations*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(d) (*Unreasonable physical force against*
3 *students, fellow employees, or visitors to the school, except as permitted under ORS*
4 *339.250*).

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6 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
7 342.175.

8 **FINAL ORDER**

9 The Commission hereby issues a Public Reprimand upon LaVeta Ann Gilmore Jones'
10 Oregon educator license, and places Gilmore Jones on probation for a period of four (4)
11 years from the date of this order. This probation period is subject to the following terms and
12 conditions:

- 13 1. Gilmore Jones shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical
14 Performance of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter
15 584, Division 020.

16 Violation of any term or condition of probation shall constitute an independent basis
17 for the Commission to revoke Gilmore Jones' teaching license or otherwise impose
18 discipline, after first providing Gilmore Jones with notice and opportunity for hearing.

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21 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 21st day of October, 2015.

22
23 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

24 By: 
25

Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director

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2 NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS
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4 YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW
5 MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM
6 THE SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE
7 PROVISIONS OF ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.