

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

JUN 02 2016

In the Matter of the)	STIPULATION OF FACTS AND
Educator License of)	FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION
ERIC WAYNE STONE)	AND PROBATION

On or about July 10, 2014, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received a report from the North Clackamas School District alleging that Eric Wayne Stone (Stone) had violated Professional Standards and Practices.

After review of the matters alleged, Stone and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts, the imposition of a six (6) month suspension of his educator license, and a four (4) year period of probation.

This document sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the stipulated sanction to be imposed. Stone stipulates that there is sufficient evidence in the Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below.

By signing below, Stone acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Suspension and Probation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Stone nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promises or representation has been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior to

entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below.

STIPULATION OF FACTS

- 1) Stone has been licensed as an Educator in Oregon since January 6, 1994. Stone holds a Standard Teaching License, with an endorsement in Standard Exceptional Learner (018); valid February 10, 2012, thru February 9, 2017. Stone also holds a Standard Personnel Services License, with an endorsement in Standard Counselor (050), which is valid from February 10, 2012 through February 9, 2017. During all relevant times, Stone was employed as a counselor with the North Clackamas School District.
- 2) On July 10, 2014, the Commission received a report from the North Clackamas School District indicating Stone may have committed acts that constitute designated act(s) of gross neglect of duty and / or acts of gross misconduct that requires a report to the Commission. The district reported that Stone's conduct violated local policies and may violate professional standards. Stone resigned his employment with Clackamas Middle College, a public charter high school under the North Clackamas School District, effective September 26, 2014.
- 3) Investigation determined that Stone had a personal interest in a student (XX) enrolled in the Clackamas Middle College (CMC), a public, charter high school, where Stone was employed as a counselor. Stone initially requested the student be assigned to another school counselor to avoid any conflict of interest issues but subsequent investigation determined that Stone had inappropriately altered XX's transcripts. In the course of reviewing transcripts, another school counselor (the one assigned to XX) noticed irregularities on XX's transcripts and reported this to school administrators. These alterations included, but are not limited to, granting "math" credit instead of the appropriate "elective" credit to courses completed in middle school, creating a new course that had not previously existed (but that the student completed), and providing letter grades of "A" instead of the appropriate "Pass" or "Fail" for a three year time period thereby inflating the student's GPA by .013. Student XX did complete

the course with a score of "passing" but policy did not allow a letter grade for the course. School officials reported Stone violated school district policy, falsified records, and fraudulently altered XX's transcripts. Stone indicated that he believed that he could grant those math credits and provide a letter grade for the newly created course but that he now understood he was mistaken.


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IT IS SO STIPULATED:


Eric Wayne Stone

31 May 2016

Date


Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

6-8-16

Date

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Eric Wayne Stone's conduct described 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*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(c) (*Using and maintaining student records as required by federal and state law and district policies and procedures*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c) (*Falsification of any document or knowing misrepresentation directly related to licensure, employment, or professional duties*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty*), and OAR 584-020-0035(1)(b) (*Refrain from exploiting professional relationships with any student for personal gain, or in support of persons or issues*).

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

ORDER

The Commission hereby adopts and incorporates herein the above stipulation of facts, conclusions of law, and based thereon hereby imposes a six (6) month suspension upon Stone's Educator License as follows:

1 Eric Wayne Stone's Educator License is hereby suspended for six (6) months following the
2 adoption of this order.

3 Furthermore, the Commission imposes a period of four (4) years of probation upon Stone to
4 commence upon reinstatement of his license and subject to the following terms and conditions of
5 probation:

- 6 1. Stone shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon
7 Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division 020.
8 Violation of any term or condition of probation shall constitute an independent basis for the
9 Commission to revoke Stone's educator license or otherwise impose discipline, after first providing
10 Stone with notice and opportunity for hearing.

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13 IT IS SO ORDERED this 20th day of June, 2016.

14 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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16 By: Monica Beane
17 Monica Beane, Executive Director