

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

In the Matter of the  
Teaching License of  
KENNETH D. DUNHAM

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DEFAULT ORDER  
SUSPENDING LICENSE

On or about November 17, 1997, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission received a complaint from Mary Ann Miesner, Chairperson of the La Grande School District Board of Directors, indicating that Kenneth D. Dunham had violated his contract by failing to provide 60 days written notice prior to resignation. Under OAR 584-50-020, the Commission informs the educator of intent to suspend the license on the basis of such complaints. The Executive Director took action to notify Kenneth Dunham of intent to suspend his license, and to inform Mr. Dunham of his opportunity for hearing by letter dated, November 26, 1997. The letter was sent by Certified Mail—Return Receipt Requested #P 196 850 170. The receipt was signed by Barbara Dunham on December 1, 1997 and returned to TSPC. Mr. Dunham did not request a hearing.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about October 3, 1997, Kenneth D. Dunham signed an contract with the La Grande School District for the 1997-98 school year.
2. On October 28, 1997, Dunham submitted a letter of resignation and gave the La Grande School District two weeks' notice of his intent to resign his position as a Computer/Publications teacher at La Grande Middle School.
3. Meeting in regular session on November 12, 1997, the La Grande School Board of Directors took action to seek a suspension of Dunham's teaching license for the balance of the 1997-98 school year and accept his resignation.
4. The La Grande School District informed TSPC of this action in a letter dated November 17, 1997, requesting the suspension of Dunham's teaching license.

ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT

Kenneth D. Dunham signed an employment contract with the La Grande School District on October 3, 1997. He submitted a letter of resignation, dated October 28, 1997, effective November 11, 1997.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

ORS 342.553 requires the suspension of a license for the balance of the school year for failure to provide 60 days' notice prior to resignation. If the charge of the contract violation is proven, and justification for the contract violation is not satisfactory, the Commission is required to suspend the license for the remainder of the school year. The Commission's decision is final.

ORDER

The Commission suspends the Oregon Standard Teaching License #283861 for the balance of the 1997-98 school year, issued to Kenneth D. Dunaham, , for violation of contract by resignation without providing 60 days' written notice.

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1998.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: David V. Myton  
David V. Myton, Executive Director

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ACTION OF THE COMMISSION TO SUSPEND LICENSES FOR CONTRACT VIOLATION S  
UNDER ORS 342.553 ARE FINAL AND MAY NOT BE APPEALED.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing order by mailing a true copy thereof certified by me as such by regular U.S. mail and by U.S. Certified Mail with Return Receipt Requested to:



Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1998.

By: Charlene A. Smith  
Charlene A. Smith  
Secretary to the Commission