1	BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
2	OF THE STATE OF OREGON
3 4 5 6	In the Matter of the STIPULATION OF FACTS AND Educator License of FINAL ORDER OF RICHARD BEST PUBLIC REPRIMAND
7	On January 7, 2021, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
8 9	(Commission) received a report from the North Wasco School District (District)
10	reporting that Richard Best (Best) had been working as an administrator at the Mosier
11	Community Charter School from July 1, 2020, through January 5, 2021, without a valid,
12	Oregon issued administrator license.
13	After review of the matters alleged, Best and the Commission agree that their
14	respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to
15	certain facts and the imposition of a Public Reprimand.
16	This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the
17	sanction to be imposed. In entering into this stipulation, Best waives the right to a
18	hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.
19	By signing below, Best 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
20	findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally
21	waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of
22	Facts and Final Order of Public Reprimand (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this
23	Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon
24	request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and
25	subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not
26	approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Best nor the
27.	Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and
28	Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force or
29	duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of
30	the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promise or representation has
31	been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has
32	consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully
33	advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an
34	attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of
35	the Stipulated Final Order below.

STIPULATION OF FACTS

 Best submitted an application for a Charter School Registry-Administrator, on December 30, 2020. Best's application was placed on hold pending resolution of this matter. During all relevant times, Best was employed at the Mosier Community School (MCS) which is sponsored by the North Wasco County School District (NWCSD).

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2. On July 1, 2020, Best was hired by the NWCSD to serve as the MCS Director. Best did not possess an Oregon Administrator License or Charter School Registry-Administrator. Best had not completed the preliminary steps necessary to temporarily work for ninety (90) days. Preliminary steps included having an application on file with the Commission and having cleared a fingerprint and background check. Relying on his previous experience of obtaining licensure outof-state, Best believed human resources personnel initiated and handled the licensing application process at MCS. On December 29, 2020, approximately six (6) months after Best began working for the NWCSD, Best started the process of creating an eLicensing account on the Commission's licensing portal. On December 30, 2020, a NWCSD staff member contacted Best about not finding a record of Best having an Oregon license. Later that day, Best completed and submitted his application for a Charter School Registry-Administrator on the licensing portal. Had Best applied in a timely fashion, there were no reasons the application would have been denied and Best would have been granted a license. At a meeting on January 5, 2021, the MCS Board Chair placed Best on administrative leave for failing to have a valid Oregon license or charter registry. On January 8, 2021, Best resigned his position.

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3. In August 2020, Best was responsible for hiring a person to fill an English-Spanish Language Immersion Educator position. The new employee did not possess a valid Oregon teaching license or charter school registry. When the employee asked Best about this, Best told the employee he (Best), "would handle this", consistent with Best's belief that human resources personnel at MCS would be initiating and handling the application process. On December 30, 2020, a NWCSD staff member was unable to locate a record of this employee having an Oregon license. At a meeting on January 5, 2021, the MCS Board Chair placed the

1	employee on administrative leave for failing to have a valid Oregon teaching
2	license or charter school registry. The employee was granted a charter school
3	registry on March 2, 2021, and remains employed at the school.
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5	IT IS SO STIPULATED:
6	T/1. V. V/1-A 9/27/2021
6 7	kichard Best Date
8	T= 10/04/2001
9 10	Trent Danowski, Deputy Director Date
11	Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
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13	CONCLUSION OF LAW
14	The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
15	342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use
16	professional judgment), OAR 584-020-0025 (3)(a) (Leadership skills in managing the
17	school, its students, staff and programs as required by lawful and reasonable district
18	policies, rules, regulations, state and federal laws and regulations, and other programs
19	as assigned, and assures that the staff is informed of these requirements); OAR 584-
20	020-0025 (3)(b) (Skills in planning and staff assignment); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(r)
21	(Working without a license); OAR 584-050-0035 (1) (Any person employed in a
22	position in a school district, education service district, or charter school for which a
23	license or registration is required pursuant to ORS Chapter 342, must hold a valid
24	license or registration appropriate for the assignment while working as a public school
25	education service district or charter school employee); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(i)
26	(Assigning an educator in violation of licensure requirements).
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28	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
29	ORS 342.175.
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31	ORDER
32	The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
33	conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on Richard Best's

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Oregon educator license.

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2	Issued and dated this day of November 2021.
3	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
4	STATE OF PREGON
5	
6	By By
7	Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director