1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 4 In the Matter of the ) STIPULATION OF FACTS AND 5 ) Educator License of FINAL ORDER OF PUBLIC STEVEN W. COOPER 6 ) REPRIMAND AND PROBATION 7 8 On November 15, 2021, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission 9 (Commission) received information from the Yamhill-Carlton School District (District) 10 alleging professional misconduct on the part of licensed educator, Steven W. Cooper 11 (Cooper). Specifically, the District alleged Cooper was arrested by local law enforcement 12 for driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII) after Cooper was involved in a 13 single car accident while driving to a district function. 14 After review of the matters alleged, Cooper and the Commission agree that their 15 respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to 16 certain facts and the imposition of a Public Reprimand and a one (1) year period of 17 probation. 18 This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the 19 sanction to be imposed. Cooper stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained in the 20 Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set 21 forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Cooper waives the right to a hearing to 22 contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below. 23 By signing below, Cooper acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to 24 the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest 25 the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally 26 waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of 27 Facts and Final Order of Public Reprimand and Probation (Stipulation and Final Order); 28 (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public 29 upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent 30 upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does 31 not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Cooper nor the 32 Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and 33 Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force or 34 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 promise or representation has

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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. The Commission has licensed Cooper since July 15, 1988. Cooper holds a Professional Teaching License, with endorsements in Basic Integrated Science (PK-12) and Middle Level Emphasis (PK-12), valid from March 10, 2019, through March 9, 2024. Cooper also holds a Preliminary Administrator License, with an endorsement in Administrator (PK-12), valid from July 3, 2018, through March 9, 2022. On March 2, 2022, Cooper submitted an application for renewal of his administrator license. The application was placed on hold pending resolution of this matter. During all relevant times, Cooper was employed by the Yamhill-Carlton School District (YCSD).

2. On November 15, 2021, the Commission received information from the YCSD that on November 10, 2021, Cooper was arrested by local law enforcement for driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII) after his involvement in a single car accident while driving to a district function.

 3. Investigation determined November 10, 2021, was an early release day for the YCSD. At approximately 2:30 PM on November 10, 2021, Cooper left school and drove home to pack for a weekend trip. While at his residence, Cooper consumed an alcoholic beverage. At approximately 5:30 PM, Cooper departed his home by automobile to attend a school board meeting scheduled to begin at 6:00 PM. Cooper's attendance at the school board meeting was to provide the board a verbal report on Yamhill High School. While in transit to the board meeting, Cooper's vehicle impacted a guard rail. The Yamhill County Sherriff's Office responded to the scene and Cooper was arrested for DUII. Cooper's blood alcohol content was determined by breathalyzer to be 0.08. Cooper's arrest prevented him from attending the board meeting and making the verbal report to the board.

1 2 3 4	4. After the District's inquiry into the matter in mid-November 2021, the District issued Cooper a letter of reprimand and a four-day suspension for violating district policy. On December 28, 2021, Cooper plead guilty to the DUII charge in Yamhill Circuit Court and was granted a diverted sentence.
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6	IT IS SO STIPULATED:
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Steven W. Cooper  Date  Date  Trent Danowski, Deputy Director Teacher Standards and Practices Commission  9-9-22  Date  9/9/2522  Date
16	CONCLUSION OF LAW
17	The conduct described in paragraph 4 above constitutes gross neglect of duty in
18	violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-
19	020-0010(5) (Use professional judgement), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using district
20	lawful and reasonable rules and regulations), and OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (Maintain
21	the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal
22	integrity and honesty)
23	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
24	ORS 342.175.
25	
26	ORDER
27	The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
28	conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on Steve W.
29	Cooper's Oregon educator license.
30	Furthermore, the Commission imposes a period of one (1) year probation upon
31	Cooper's license to commence from the date this order is signed by the Commission and
32	subject to the following condition:
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34	1. Cooper shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance
35	of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division
36	020.
37	

1	Issued and dated this day of October, 2022.
2	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
3	STATE OF OREGON
4	A.6/ (7)
5	By Color V
6	Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director