## 1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 In the Matter of the STIPULATION OF FACTS AND 4 **Educator License of** FINAL ORDER OF 5 LARSEN, AARON L. PUBLIC REPRIMAND AND 6 ) **PROBATION** 7 8 9 On April 6, 2022, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received a misconduct report from the Superintendent of the North Bend 10 11 School District (NBSD), indicating possible professional misconduct on the part of 12 licensed educator, Aaron L. Larsen (Larsen). 13 After review of the matters alleged, Larsen and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to 14 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. Larsen stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained in the 18 Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set 19 forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Larsen waives the right to a hearing to 20 contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below. 21 By signing below, Larsen acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to 22 the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest 23 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 24 Facts and Final Order of Public Reprimand (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this 25 26 Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon 27 request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and 28 subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not 29 approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Larsen nor the 30 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 31 duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of 32 33 the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promise or representation has been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has 34 consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully 35

advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an

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

## STIPULATION OF FACTS

The Commission has licensed Larsen since August 5, 1988. Larsen currently
holds a Legacy Teaching License with an endorsement in World Language:
Spanish (PK-12). The license was issued on April 12, 2022 and is valid through
April 11, 2025. During all relevant times, Larsen was employed by the North Bend
School District (NBSD).

2. On April 6, 2022, the superintendent of the NBSD filed a School District Misconduct Report alleging that Larsen "displayed music videos with sexualized lyrics in visual representation to students." It was reported that one of Larsen's students found the video inappropriate and recorded the video being shown in the classroom on their cell phone. The parents of the student reported this incident to NBSD administration.

3. During the district investigation, per NBSD records, Larsen admitted to district investigative staff that the video was inappropriate and should not have been shown in the classroom. Larsen reported that his motivation for showing the video was that Pitbull is a Latin American star which makes him relevant to Spanish-speaking culture which is part of what he is responsible for teaching in Spanish class. Additionally, Larsen stated that students had previously requested the video be played. According to district records, as a result of this incident, Larsen's contract with the NBSD was not renewed.

4. Larsen interviewed with TSPC Investigative staff on December 6, 2022 via telephone. Also present for the interview was his attorney, Kate Flanagan. During the interview Larsen reported that he did not think the Pitbull video played in the classroom was "that bad" and reported that he had played it for students before, because they had requested it. Larsen reported that at the time the video played, he was not aware that it had made any student uncomfortable. Larsen denied that he heard any complaints from students that day, nor any verbal comments from students about the video being inappropriate. According to Larsen, the music

1	video "Timber" is one of Billboards top 100 songs of the decade, 2010-2019. The
2	music video shows women line-dancing on a table in shorts. Larsen reported that
3	he apologized for the incident and stated that he never had any intention of
4	making any students uncomfortable. Additionally, Larsen stated that he would
5	not do this again, and now knows that he cannot allow students to play videos
6	they want in class.
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8	IT IS SØ STIPULATED:
9 0 1 2 3 4	Aaron L. Larsen  Date  Date  Trent Danowski, Deputy Director Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
5	CONCLUSION OF LAW
6	The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
17	342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment), OAR 584-020-
8	0025(2)(e) (Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations).
19	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
20	ORS 342.175.
21	ORDER
22	The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
23	conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand and one (1) year
24	probation.
25	Issued and dated thisday of April, 2023.
26	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
27	STATE OF OREGON
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29	By Szy rue
30	Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director