1 2 3			STANDARDS THE STATE (	S AND PRACTICES COMMISSION OF OREGON
4 5 6 7 8	Ed	the Matter of the ducator License of AWRENCE S. POTTS	)	DEFAULT ORDER OF REVOCATION AND REVOCATION OF RIGHT TO APPLY FOR AN EDUCATOR LICENSE
9		On February 1, 2019, the T	eacher Stand	ards and Practices Commission
10	(C	commission) issued a Notice of (	Opportunity f	or Hearing to Lawrence S. Potts (Potts) in
11	wh	hich the Commission charged h	m with Gross	s Neglect of Duty and Gross Unfitness.
12	Th	ne Notice was sent via U.S. First	Class Mail an	nd U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7017 0190
13	00	000 6246 6364 to the address of	n file with the	e Commission. The Notice designated the
14	Co	ommission file as the record for	purposes of p	proving a prima facie case. The Certified
15	Ma	ail was returned to the Commis	sion signed o	n February 4, 2019. The regular first class
16	ma	ail was not returned to the Com	mission, and	assumed delivered. The Notice of
17	Or	pportunity of Hearing, dated Fe	bruary 1, 201	9, and signed by Dr. Anthony Rosilez,
18	Ex	xecutive Director, stated:		
19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28		PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO UNLESS YOUR FAILURE REASONABLE CONTROL WITHDRAW YOUR REQU AT A HEARING, OR NOTI APPEAR AT HEARING, T	O A HEARIN TO REQUES . IF YOU DO JEST FOR HI FY THE COMMIS NCLUDE TH	T RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY G SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED T A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR NOT REQUEST A HEARING, EARING, OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR MMISSION THAT YOU WILL NOT SION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF E REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF NE."
29	Po	otts notified TSPC of his intent t	o default. Th	e Commission, therefore, finds Potts to be
30	in	default and enters the following	g findings of t	fact, conclusions of law, and final order,
31	ba	ased on the files and records of t	he Commissi	on concerning this matter.
32				
33		I	FINDINGS (	OF FACT
34	1.	Lawrence S. Potts has been lic	ensed by the	Commission since July 25, 2017. Potts'
35		Preliminary Teaching License	, with endors	ements in Health (PK-12) and Physical
36		Education (PK-12), was valid to	rom July 25,	2017 through February 19, 2021. During
37		all relevant times, Potts was en	nployed by tl	ne Three Rivers School District (TRSD).

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2. On November 21, 2017, the Commission received a report from the Department of Human Services (DHS) alleging Potts was having an inappropriate sexual relationship with a minor. On December 7, 2017, the Commission received a report from the TRSD alleging Potts was under law enforcement investigation for possible criminal conduct for an alleged romantic relationship with a student. DHS, working in conjunction with law enforcement, reported that on October 29, 2017, while on a multiple-overnight school sponsored field trip to Bend, Oregon, Potts and a sixteen vear-old female student, engaged in consensual oral sex in Potts' hotel room. 

3. On March 7, 2018, the Grand Jury for Deschutes County indicted Potts on four felony counts of Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree (ORS 163.425). On July 5, 2018, by plea agreement, Potts was convicted of one felony count of Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree (ORS 163.425). Potts was sentenced on July 5, 2018 to supervised probation for sixty months and required to register as a sex offender, which he did on July 5, 2018.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Lawrence Pott's criminal convictions constitute 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); and OAR 584-020-0040(1) (The Commission will deny, revoke or deny the right to apply for a license or charter school registration to any applicant or educator who, has been convicted of any of the crimes listed in ORS 342.143, or the substantial equivalent of any of those crimes if convicted in another jurisdiction), including ORS 163.425 – Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree. This conduct also constitutes gross unfitness in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(c) (Conviction of violating any federal, state, or local law. A conviction includes any final judgment of conviction by a court whether as the result of guilty plea, no contest plea or any other means); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(d) (Commission of an act listed in OAR 584-020-0040(1)); and OAR 584-020-0040(5)(e) (Admission of or engaging in acts constituting criminal conduct, even in the absence of a conviction).

1	Pursuant to ORS 342.175(3) and OAR 584-020-0040(1) the Teacher Standards
2	and Practices Commission must revoke Potts' license and / or Potts' right to apply for a
3	license based on conviction of any of the crimes listed in ORS 342.143(3)(a), or the
4	substantial equivalent of any of those crimes, or convicted of attempt to commit such
5	crimes as defined in ORS 161.405.
6	
7	Furthermore, the conduct underlying Potts' convictions constitutes gross neglect
8	of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates
9	OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(f) (Any
10	sexual conduct with a student) as defined by OAR 584-020-0005(5); OAR 584-020-
11	0040(4)(0) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (Honoring appropriate
12	adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times); and OAR
13	584-020-0035(3)(a)(Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying
14	the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty). Additionally, Pott's criminal
15	convictions and conduct related to his convictions constitute "gross unfitness" in
16	violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(3)(c) and (d) as defined by OAR
17	584-020-0040 (5) (Gross unfitness is any conduct which renders an educator
18	unqualified to perform his or her professional responsibilities).
19	
20	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
21	ORS 342.175.
22	FINAL ORDER
23	The Commission hereby revokes Lawrence S. Potts' Oregon educator license and
24	revokes his right to apply for an Oregon educator license.
25	IT IS SO ORDERED THIS day of June, 2019.
26	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
27	
	By: J. Rosiles
28	By:
29 30	Dr. Anthony Rosnez, Executive Director

1	NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS
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3	YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY
4	BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE
5	SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
6	ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.
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