1 2 3	BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OREGON
4 5 6 7 8 9	In the Matter of the Educator License of  MARY JILL ST. LOUIS  DEFAULT ORDER OF DENIAL OF APPLICATION AND REVOCATION OF RIGHT TO APPLY  OF RIGHT TO APPLY
10	On January 30, 2020, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
11	(Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Mary St. Louis (St. Louis)
12	in which the Commission charged her with Gross Neglect of Duty and / or Gross
13	Unfitness. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt
14	7018 1830 0001 6178 7121 to the address on file with the Commission. The Notice
15	designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima facie case.
16	The Certified Mail was not returned to the Commission. The regular first class mail was
17	not returned to the Commission, and both are assumed delivered. The Notice of
18	Opportunity of Hearing, dated January 30, 2020, and signed by Anthony Rosilez,
19	Executive Director, stated:
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	"IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING, WITHDRAW YOUR REQUEST FOR HEARING, OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, OR NOTIFY THE COMMISSION THAT YOU WILL NOT APPEAR AT HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE."
30	St. Louis did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds St. Louis to be in
31	default and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order,
32	based on the files and records of the Commission concerning this matter.
33	
34	FINDINGS OF FACT
35	1. Mary St. Louis has been licensed by the Commission since July 27, 2009. St. Louis'
36	Preliminary Teaching License, with an endorsement in Elementary Multiple Subjects
37	(PK-12), was valid from December 11, 2015, through December 10, 2018. On
38	November 30, 2018, St. Louis submitted an application for an Oregon educator

1 license. The expiration of St. Louis' Preliminary Teaching License was stayed pending the outcome of the investigation. During all relevant times, St. Louis was 2 3 employed by the Renaissance School of Arts and Science (REN). 4 5 2. On or about April 18, 2018, the Commission received information from the Oregon 6 Department of Human Services (DHS) indicating that in the course of investigating 7 related DHS complaint(s), they learned that St. Louis had engaged in conduct that 8 could constitute gross neglect of duty according to Commission standards and rules. 9 Specifically, DHS reported that on April 17, 2018, St. Louis appeared intoxicated 10 while on duty. 11 3. Investigation determined that on April 17, 2018, witnesses reported that St. Louis 12 smelled of alcohol and appeared to be intoxicated. Witnesses described St. Louis' 13 behavior as unsteady on her feet, red glossy eyes, slurring words, and speaking of 14 15 events of the past as if they recently occurred. At one point, as St. Louis began walking home from school. Witnesses observed St. Louis stagger and fall and then 16 17 struggle to get up. Witnesses reported their concerns to school administrators. 18 19 In the course of investigating St. Louis' conduct of April 17, 2018; investigators 20 reviewed additional, past incidents that could have been alcohol related. On 21 February 9, 2017, St. Louis was found unresponsive on the floor by a student. When roused, St. Louis had slurred speech and was unable to walk unassisted. St. Louis 22 refused medical assistance and was escorted home. On May 18, 2017, a student 23 reported to staff that St. Louis was slurring her words and falling asleep. Staff found 24 St. Louis to be confused, slurring words, and slack faced. St. Louis was transported 25 26 to the hospital for treatment. Investigators reviewed a history of DHS and criminal investigations dating from 27 2003 to 2018. The majority of these investigations were "Founded" for neglect and 28 29 were related to St. Louis' intoxication or abuse of alcohol. The criminal investigations were also related to St. Louis' intoxication including multiple DUII's 30

and related charges. In St. Louis' interview with Commission Investigator(s), St.

Louis admitted to having a "drinking problem". Regarding the incidents of April 17,

31

32

2018, St. Louis advised that she was likely intoxicated while at work and would not have passed a breathalyzer test. St. Louis added that there were likely other occasions where she woke up still intoxicated from drinking the night before, and reported for work anyway.

4. In the course of investigating the April 18, 2018, DHS report to the Commission, investigators reviewed St. Louis' criminal history and then compared her licensure and employment applications to verify if St. Louis had properly answered her character and background questions. Investigation determined that on St. Louis' November 30, 2018, application for renewal of her licensure, St. Louis inaccurately answered questions related to her criminal history, her employment history, and her status of being under investigation (Questions number 1, 2, and 8 on St. Louis' character question section of her application). Review of St. Louis' character / background questions she submitted to the North Marion School District on September 19, 2018, also indicated inaccuracies and false information related to St. Louis' investigation status and arrest history. When St. Louis was questioned about her inaccurate answers, St. Louis advised that she must have forgotten or believed the conviction was not a "Major crime".

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Mary St. Louis's conduct as described in sections two (2) and (3) above constitutes 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), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations), OAR 584-020-0040(4)(g) (Appearing on duty or at any district-sponsored activity while under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(3) (a) (Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty).

St. Louis's conduct described in section four (4) above constitutes 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*), OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c)

1	(Falsification of any document or knowing misrepresentation directly related to
2	licensure, employment, or professional duties), and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(0) as it
3	incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(3) (a) (Maintain the dignity of the profession by
4	respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty).
5	
6	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
7	ORS 342.175.
8	FINAL ORDER
9	The Commission hereby denies Mary St. Louis' application for an Oregon
10	educator license and revokes her right to apply for an Oregon educator license.
11	IT IS SO ORDERED THIS _/5#day of April, 2020.
12	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
13 14 15	By:
16 17	NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS
18 19 20 21	YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.