1 2 3				RDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION OF OREGON		
4 5 6 7	Licens	Matter of the Educator se of A BLACK	) ) )	DEFAULT ORDER OF PUBLIC REPRIMAND AND PROBATION		
8 9		On February 21, 2020, the Tea	cher Sta	ndards and Practices Commission		
10	(Com	mission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Laura Black (Black) in which				
11	the Co	ommission charged her with Gro	ss Negl	ect of Duty. The Notice was sent via U.S. First		
12	Class ]	s Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7018 1830 0001 6178 7329 to the address on file				
13	with t	he Commission. The Notice desi	gnated	the Commission file as the record for purposes		
14	of pro	ving a prima facie case. The Cer	tified M	ail receipt was not returned to the		
15	Comm	nission. The first class mail was	not retu	rned to the Commission and presumed		
16	delive	red. The Notice of Opportunity	of Heari	ng, dated February 21, 2020, and signed by		
17	Antho	ny Rosilez, Executive Director,	stated:			
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	"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."					
28	Black	did not request a hearing. The C	ommiss	sion, therefore, finds Black to be in default and		
29	enters	the following findings of fact, co	onclusio	ons of law, and final order, based on the files		
30	and re	cords of the Commission concer	rning th	is matter.		
31		FIN	DING	S OF FACT		
32	1.	Black has been licensed by the	Commis	sion since August 31, 2015. Black held a		
33		Charter School Registry, with e	ndorsen	nents in Physical Education (PK-12) and		
34		Health (PK-12), valid from Aug	ust 31, 2	2015, through August 31, 2018. During all		
35		relevant times, Black was empl	oyed at	the Academy of Arts and Academics (A3),		
36		which is now part of the Spring	field Scl	hool District (SSD).		
37	2.	On February 28, 2019, the Com	missior	a received a report from the Oregon		
38		Department of Human Services	s (DHS)	indicating Black may have committed		

1	acts, which constitute gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness. The DHS	
2	report alleged Black engaged in inappropriate teacher / student boundaries with	th
3	students.	
4	Investigation determined that during Black's employment with A3 (2015-2017)	),
5	Black engaged in a variety of conduct that violated district policy and teacher /	
6	student boundaries. Specifically, engaging students as "Friends" on social med	ia
7	and by cell phone, sharing overly personal information about Black's illegal dru	ıg
8	use, and undressing (costume change) in the presence of a student during a	
9	school performance. On May 18, 2017, the school administrator issued Black a	L

disciplinary letter related to the sharing of personal information with or around
students, and directing Black to maintain professional boundaries with students
at all times. Furthermore, on or about February 22, 2019, it was reported to
officials that in November 2016, witnesses had observed Black fraternizing with,
and kissing, then student AS on a city bus.

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## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Laura Black engaged in unprofessional conduct as described above. This conduct
constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-0200040(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); and

21 OAR 584-020-0040(4)(0) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (Honoring

22 appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times).

23

24 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS 342.175.

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## FINAL ORDER

27 The Commission hereby issues a Public Reprimand upon Laura Black's Educator28 licensure.

In addition, the Commission places Black on probation for a period of two years to
 commence upon any renewal or new licensure. This probation period is subject to

1	the following terms and conditions:			
2				
3	1. Black shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of			
4	Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division 020.			
5	2. Black shall successfully complete a Commission approved training related to			
6	student / educator boundaries within the first year of probation.			
7				
8	Violation of any term or condition of probation shall constitute an independent basis			
9	for the Commission to revoke Black's teaching license or otherwise impose discipline, after			
10	first providing Black with notice and opportunity for hearing.			
11 12 13	IT IS SO ORDERED THIS day of April, 2020.			
14				
15	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION			
16	By: Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director			
17	Ву:			
18	Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director			
19 20	NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS			
21	NOTICE OF ALLEAL OK RIGHTS			
22	YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW			
23	MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM			
24	THE SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE			
25	PROVISIONS OF ORS 18382 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.			