

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 SUSPENSION**
5 **CHRISTINE JOAN GARCIA**) **AND PROBATION**

6 On or about November 2, 2016, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
7 (Commission) received a report from the North Clackamas School District alleging professional
8 misconduct on the part of licensed educator, Christine Joan Garcia (Garcia).

9 After review of the matters alleged, Garcia and the Commission agree that their respective
10 interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts, the
11 imposition of a six (6) month suspension of Garcia’s Oregon educator license, and a four (4) year
12 period of probation to commence upon reinstatement of Garcia’s Oregon educator license.

13 This document sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the stipulated
14 sanction to be imposed. Garcia stipulates that there is sufficient evidence in the Commission’s files
15 and records to support the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below.

16 By signing below, Garcia acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following:

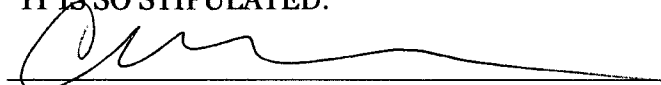
- 17 (i) she has been fully advised of her rights to notice and a hearing to contest the findings of fact,
18 conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all such rights and any rights
19 to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Suspension and
20 Probation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and
21 disclosed to the public upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is
22 contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does
23 not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Garcia nor the Commission are
24 bound by the terms herein; (iv) she has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it
25 completely; (v) she voluntarily, without any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final
26 Order and consents to issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) she states that no
27 promises or representation has been made to induce her to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and
28 (vii) she has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully

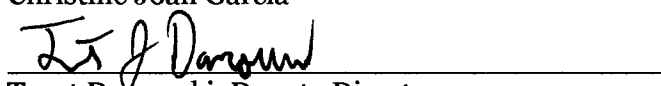
1 advised with regard to her rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior
2 to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order
3 below.

4 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 5 1) Garcia has been licensed as an Educator in Oregon since July 26, 1991. Garcia holds a Professional
6 Teaching License, with endorsements in Elementary-Multiple Subjects (PK-12) and Reading
7 Intervention (PK-12), valid from February 1, 2017 through November 27, 2022. Garcia also holds a
8 Professional Administrator License, with an endorsement in Administrator (PK-12), valid from
9 February 1, 2017, through November 27, 2022. During all relevant times, Garcia was employed by
10 the North Clackamas School District.
- 11 2) On November 2, 2016, the Commission received a report from the North Clackamas School
12 District indicating Garcia may have committed an act of gross neglect of duty and/or gross
13 unfitness. Specifically, that Garcia had misused the district's credit card and other financial
14 accounts.
- 15 3) Investigation determined that during the time between August 5, 2014, and August 25, 2016, Garcia
16 misused the school district's "purchase credit card" (P-Card). An audit of Garcia's transactions
17 determined that Garcia had used the P-Card to make personal purchases in violation of local policy.
18 Additionally, the audit determined Garcia, on multiple occasions, requested and/or received
19 reimbursement for expenses that were inappropriate. Based on Garcia's conduct, the North Clackamas
20 School District sought Garcia's termination, and by agreement, Garcia resigned her employment and
21 repaid the district an established upon amount of the misappropriated funds totaling \$7,420.40.

22 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

23 
24 _____
Christine Joan Garcia

25 
26 _____
Trent Danowski, Deputy Director
27 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

Apr 18, 2018
Date

4/23/2018
Date

1 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

2 Christine Joan Garcia’s conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation
3 of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use*
4 *professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using district lawful and reasonable rules and*
5 *regulations*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c) (*Falsification of any document or knowing*
6 *misrepresentation directly related to licensure, employment, or professional duties*); OAR 584-020-
7 0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(2)(e) (*Not use the district's or school's name,*
8 *property, or resources for non-educational benefit or purposes without approval of the educator's*
9 *supervisor or the appointing authority*), and OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain the dignity of the*
10 *profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty*).

11 The Commission’s authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS 342.175.
12

13 **ORDER**
14

15 The Commission hereby adopts and incorporates herein the above stipulation of facts,
16 conclusions of law, and based thereon hereby imposes a six (6) month suspension upon Garcia’s
17 Oregon educator license as follows:

18 Christine Garcia’s Oregon educator license is hereby suspended for six (6) months following
19 the adoption of this order.

20 Furthermore, the Commission imposes a period of four (4) years of probation upon Garcia to
21 commence upon reinstatement of her license and subject to the following terms and conditions of
22 probation:

- 23 1. Garcia shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon
24 Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division 020.

25 Violation of any term or condition of probation shall constitute an independent basis for the
26 Commission to revoke Garcia’s educator license or otherwise impose discipline, after first providing
27 Garcia with notice and opportunity for hearing.
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IT IS SO ORDERED this 20 day of June, 2018.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 

Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director