BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of the)	
Teaching License of:)	ORDER SUSPENDING
)	LICENSE
HEIDE HAUSKEN,)	
Licensee)	

This matter came before the Commission on March 16, 2007 to consider whether to suspend Licensee's teaching license for the remainder of the school year pursuant to ORS 342.553 and OAR 584-050-0020. Licensee appeared in person representing herself. The Commission was represented by Raul Ramirez, Assistant Attorney General. The following witnesses testified: Hank Harris, Director of Human Resources for Canby School District (CSD), Justin Potts, Teacher at CSD. The Commission also received sworn testimony in writing from Sondra Strong, Director of Special Programs, CSD. Licensee testified on her behalf.

Exhibits 1 to 6 were offered and admitted into evidence without objection. Based on the foregoing, the Commission now makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

 1. On November 22, 2006, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission received a report from the Canby School District (CSD), alleging that Licensee had resigned her teaching position without providing 60 days' written notice prior to resignation. The Commission informed Licensee of the Commission's intent to suspend her teaching license on the basis of CSD's report. The Executive Director notified Licensee by certified mail of the Commission's proposed action on December 1, 2006. Licensee requested a hearing. (Ex 1 to 3)

2. Licensee was employed as a teacher for the Canby School District (District) during the 2005-2006 school year. On March 6, 2006, the District Board of Directors notified Licensee that the Canby School Board voted to renew Licensee's probationary teacher's contract for the 2006-2007 school year. (Test. of Harris, Hausken; Ex 5)

3. The Notice of contract renewal provided a space for Licensee to accept or reject the offer. Licensee did not return the form to the District. Licensee's collective bargaining agreement requires a 60-day notice of resignation. Licensee appeared for work on or about September 8, 2006. When a teacher does not return a signed acceptance or rejection of the contract renewal offer, the district treats the situation as an acceptance of the offer. In Licensee's case, the District did so. When Licensee showed up for work at the beginning of the school year,

the District additionally relied on her appearance as acceptance of the contract and its terms. (Test. of Harris, Ex 5)

- 4. Licensee was incorrectly informed by a union representative that she was not subject to the requirement that she give at least 60-days notice before resigning. On September 19, 2006, Licensee submitted a letter of resignation to Harris stating she was resigning her position effective October 20, 2006. Licensee did not provide a specific reason for her resignation. She stated "I have enjoyed working with the Canby School District's fine staff of professionals, and I will miss my associations here." (Test. of Harris, Hausken, Ex 1, p 9; Ex 3).
- 5. Harris discussed with Licensee the requirement that she was obligated to provide a 60-day notice of resignation. Harris conferred with Licensee's supervisor, Sondra Strong, about alternate ways that Licensee could fulfill her obligation to the District. Harris wrote to Licensee on September 20, 2006 regarding a proposal for Licensee to fulfill the 60-day notice requirement. Licensee responded to Harris by email, confirming that Licensee's last day would be October 20, 2006. (Test. of Harris, Hausken, Ex 1)

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. By failing to give the required 60 days notice before resigning her position as a teacher, Licensee violated ORS 342.553.
- 2. Hausken's teaching license is subject to suspension for the remainder of the school year.

ORDER

Based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby ordered as follows:

The Transitional School Psychologist License of Heide Hausken is suspended for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year.

IT IS SO ORDERED this / day of May 2007.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

(hamberlain)

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

You are entitled to judicial review of this Order in accordance with ORS 183.480 to
183.482. You may request judicial review by filing a petition for review with the Oregon Court
of Appeals within sixty (60) days from the date of this Order.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that I served the foregoing order by mailing a true copy thereof certified by me as such by regular U.S. mail and by U.S. Certified Mail—Return Receipt Requested, addressed to: 6 7 Heide Hausken 2506 North Cheyenne Street 9 Tacoma WA 98406 10 11 __day of May 2007. 12 13 14 15 16 Melody Hanson, Executive Assistant 17