

1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON

3 In the Matter of the) STIPULATION OF FACTS
4 Administrative License of) AND
5 STEVEN EUGENE PINE) ORDER OF REPRIMAND

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7 On June 26, 2003, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
8 (Commission) received separate complaints from Regina Sizemore and Sandra Boyd
9 alleging that Steven Eugene Pine assigned Brenda Pine to serve as a substitute
10 teacher in the Butte Falls School District without proper licensure.

11 Steven Pine fully cooperated with the Commission's investigation. After review
12 of the matters alleged, Steven Pine and the Commission agree that their respective
13 interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain
14 facts, an imposition of a Public Reprimand together with a letter of apology to the
15 Commission.

16 This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the
17 sanction to be imposed. Steven Pine stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained
18 in the Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of
19 law set forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Steven Pine waives the right to a
20 hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.

21 This stipulation is contingent upon approval and adoption of the Order by the
22 Commission. If the Commission does not adopt this Order, neither Steven Pine nor the
23 Commission are bound by these stipulations, and Steven Pine retains all rights to a
24 hearing on the allegations.

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STIPULATION OF FACTS

1. The Commission has licensed Steven Eugene Pine since September 16, 1977. Steven Pine currently holds a Transitional Administrative License issued May 31, 2001, valid until May 31, 2004, with an Administrator Endorsement.

2. Steven Pine is employed as a Superintendent/Principal by the Butte Falls School District. He began his employment as an Administrator on July 2, 2002.

3. The Commission issued Brenda Pine a Basic Teaching License on July 27, 1994, valid until August 31, 1997. Brenda Pine did not apply to the Commission for reinstatement of an expired teaching license until May 15, 2003.

4. Prior to the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year Steven Pine should have been aware that Brenda Pine did not hold a valid Oregon Teaching License.

5. As Superintendent of Butte Falls School District Steven Pine assigned Brenda Pine to serve as a substitute teacher in the Butte Falls School District on 59 separate days beginning September 12, 2002, through May 21, 2003.

IT IS SO STIPULATED:



Steven Eugene Pine

12.6.03
Date



Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

12-01-03
Date

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Steven Pine serving as an administrator for Butte Falls School District assigned Brenda Pine in violation of licensure as set forth in OAR 584-050-0030(2) and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(i). This behavior constitutes Gross Neglect of Duty. The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS 342.175.

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ORDER

The Commission hereby adopts the above findings of fact, imposes a Public Reprimand and accepts a written apology from Steven Eugene Pine. This Order shall serve as the Public Reprimand.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 15th day of January 2004.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By 
Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM


James M. Brown, OSB# 67012
Attorney for Steven Eugene Pine

[120103]



Butte Falls School District #91

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Accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges

December 10, 2003

Victoria Chamberlain
Executive Director
Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

Dear Victoria Chamberlain,

It is with sincere apology that I acknowledge receipt of the Commission's findings of cause for reprimand. I am completely aware that the responsibility to insure appropriate actions within the district and enforce public policies in any event lies at the feet of the superintendent's office.

I regret that my actions, or lack thereof, resulted in an unlicensed person being allowed into the classroom. While it was certainly not intentional, it is also inexcusable. I concur that the Commission has the responsibility to maintain the highest standards for educators, and I appreciate that such responsibility requires an exacting scrutiny of professional practices.

Once again, I apologize for what took place, and I consider it a lesson I'll not soon forget.

Respectfully,

Steve Pine
Superintendent/Principal
Butte Falls School District