

1                   BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

2   OF THE STATE OF OREGON

3   In the Matter of the   )           STIPULATION OF FACTS  
4   Teaching License of   )           AND REVOCATION  
5   WATANABE, LESLIE YUSUKE                                   )           OF RIGHT TO APPLY FOR LICENSURE

6           On or about June 1 2011, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission  
7   (Commission) received a report from the Washington County Sheriff's office stating that Mr.  
8   Watanabe was under investigation for sexual improprieties with a student in the 1980's.

9           After review of the matters alleged, Watanabe and the Commission agree that their  
10   respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain  
11   facts and Revocation of Watanabe's right to apply for an Oregon teaching license.

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

16           By signing below, Watanabe acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the  
17   following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest the  
18   findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all  
19   such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final  
20   Order of Surrender and Revocation of Licensure (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this  
21   Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request by the  
22   Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and subject to approval  
23   and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not approve and adopt this  
24   Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Watanabe nor the Commission are bound by the terms  
25   herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v)  
26   he voluntarily, without any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and  
27   consents to issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no

1 promises or representation has been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final  
2 Order; and (vii) he has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order  
3 and has been fully advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to  
4 consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and  
5 entry of the Stipulated Final Order below. This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties  
6 have agreed and the sanction to be imposed. Watanabe stipulates that there are sufficient facts  
7 contained in the Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions  
8 of law set forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Watanabe waives the right to a hearing  
9 to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below.

#### 10 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 11 1. The Commission has licensed Watanabe since October 23, 2002. Mr. Watanabe last  
12 held a Limited Teaching License with an endorsement in PE – Dance only, that expired  
13 on March 23, 2012. During all relevant times Mr. Watanabe was employed by the  
14 Beaverton School District.
- 15 2. In and around the year of 1980, Mr. Watanabe was employed by the Reed College  
16 located in Portland Oregon as a dance instructor. During the summer of 1980, Mr.  
17 Watanabe was a dance instructor for the Reed College, five week, summer dance festival  
18 workshop, teaching a Master Dance class to both adult and minor age students. Mr.  
19 Watanabe was not a licensed teacher at that time, and this employment did not require a  
20 teaching license. RC was a minor, approximately 14-15 years old at the time, and a  
21 student in Mr. Watanabe's class.
- 22 3. During the summer dance class of 1980, Mr. Watanabe invited his student, RC out for  
23 coffee, and later out for dinner. Mr. Watanabe described to investigators that he and RC  
24 connected during this time and that he invited RC to his college provided dorm room  
25 where he and RC engaged in sexual intercourse. Mr. Watanabe advised that he was fully  
26 aware that RC was under the age of consent (18) at the time. Mr. Watanabe described the

1 sexual encounter as a one time, consensual event. Law enforcement was unable to  
2 prosecute Mr. Watanabe for the criminal behavior due to the statute of limitations  
3 having expired. On October 23, 2002, Mr. Watanabe became a licensed teacher in the  
4 State of Oregon and has been employed as a part-time fitness and dance teacher, varying  
5 between working .50 and .83 FTE each school year.  
6

7 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

8 Leslie Watanabe  
9 Leslie Watanabe

9/20/12  
Date

10 Victoria Chamberlain  
11 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director  
12 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

10-31-12  
Date

13 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

14 Leslie Watanabe engaged in unprofessional conduct as described in paragraph 3 above.  
15 This conduct constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-  
16 0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR 584-  
17 020-040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate adult*  
18 *boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times*); and OAR 584-020-  
19 0040(4)(f) (*Any sexual conduct with a student*). This conduct also constitutes gross unfitness in  
20 violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(e) (*Admission of or engaging in acts*  
21 *constituting criminal conduct, even in the absence of a conviction*).

22 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS  
23 342.175.

24 **ORDER**

25 The Commission adopts the above Stipulation of Facts and permanently revokes Leslie  
26 Watanabe's right to apply for a teaching license.

1           It is further stipulated and ordered that Mr. Watanabe agrees no to reapply for a  
2 Commission license in the future.

3 IT IS SO ORDERED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012.

4           TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

5  
6 By: *Victoria Chamberlain*  
7           Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director