

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

3  
4       In the Matter of the                                )  
5       Teaching License of                                )  
6       LARRY DEAN SHARP                                 )  
7    )

STIPULATION OF FACTS,  
ORDER OF SUSPENSION  
AND PROBATION

8               On or about February 8, 2001, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission  
9       (Commission) received a report from Art Johns, Superintendent, Winston-Dillard Public Schools  
10       indicating that Larry Dean Sharp, a licensed educator, may have violated Standards by making  
11       inappropriate comments to female students, inappropriate use of a computer, and neglect of  
12       duty.

13              Mr. Sharp fully cooperated with the Commission's investigation. After review of the  
14       matters alleged, Mr. Sharp and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together  
15       with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts and the surrender of his  
16       teaching license. This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the  
17       sanction to be imposed. In entering into this stipulation, Mr. Sharp waives the right to a hearing  
18       to contest the findings of fact, conclusion of law and order set forth below. Mr. Sharp  
19       understands that the Commission will accept the surrender of his teaching license and will  
20       suspend the teaching license. Mr. Sharp understands that reinstatement of his teaching license  
21       after the one-year period of suspension will be subject to specific conditions and a subsequent  
22       two (2) year period of probation.

23   **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

24              1. The Commission has licensed Mr. Sharp as an Oregon Educator continuously since  
25       January 11, 1972. He currently holds a Standard Oregon Teaching License with Basic  
26       Advanced Mathematics, Basic Chemistry, Basic Physics and Basic Biology Endorsements  
27       issued October 22, 1999, valid until October 14, 2004.

1 2. Mr. Sharp was employed by Winston-Dillard Public Schools, Douglas High School,  
2 beginning in September of 1990. Mr. Sharp served as a licensed educator in the classroom  
3 until December 10, 2000, when he took medical leave. By agreement dated January 18, 2001,  
4 Mr. Sharp resigned his teaching position effective June 30, 2001. The agreement allowed Mr.  
5 Sharp to take paid medical leave until April 30, 2001, after which time his medical leave was  
6 unpaid through the end of the year.

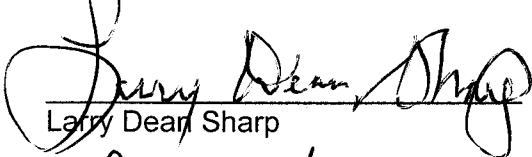
7 3. Mr. Sharp made inappropriate and offensive sexual comments to female students.

8 4. Mr. Sharp failed to supervise male students in his classroom, and as a result the  
9 students accessed sexually explicit Internet sites on Mr. Sharp's classroom computer.


10 5. Mr. Sharp accepts responsibility for making inappropriate sexual comments to female  
11 students and acknowledges his behavior was inappropriate.

12 This stipulation is contingent upon approval and adoption of the Order by the  
13 Commission. If the Commission does not adopt this Order, neither Mr. Sharp nor the  
14 Commission are bound by these Stipulations and Mr. Sharp retains all rights to a hearing on the  
15 allegations.

16 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

17   
18 Larry Dean Sharp  
19

5/22/01  
Date

20   
21 David V. Myton Executive Director  
22 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission  
23

5/17/01  
Date

24 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

25 Mr. Sharp violated OAR 584-020-0040(4)(f) by making repeated inappropriate and  
26 offensive sexual comments to female students and creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive  
27 educational environment for those students. This conduct also demonstrated failure use  
28 professional judgment in violation of OAR 584-020-0010(5) and failure to demonstrate a skill in

1 communication with students in violation of OAR 584-020-0030(2)(b). Mr. Sharp violated OAR  
2 584-020-0020(2)(d) by failing to supervise students so that the students accessed sexually  
3 explicit content on Mr. Sharp's computer.

4 **ORDER**

5 The Commission suspends the Oregon Standard Teaching License of Larry Dean Sharp  
6 effective July 13, 2001 for a period of one year. At the end of this suspension period, Mr. Sharp'  
7 Teaching License shall be reinstated providing he meets the following conditions:

- 8 1. Complete application with required supporting documentation and fees;
- 9 2. Documentation that he has completed (at his own expense), an intensive education  
10 program regarding appropriate boundaries with students, including sexual harassment  
11 education conducted by a qualified trainer approved in advance by the Commission. This  
12 intensive training shall consist of, at least, five (5) one and one-half (1 ½) hour sessions. Mr.  
13 Sharp shall provide the trainer with a copy of this Order. The program trainer shall provide the  
14 Commission with a report of successful program completion;
- 15 3. Documentation that he has he has undergone an evaluation by a psychotherapist or  
16 medical professional acceptable to the Commission. The evaluator shall submit a written report  
17 to the Commission attesting (1) Mr. Sharp is fit to work with children and teenagers, and (2)  
18 there is a high probability he will not engage in similar inappropriate behavior. Any costs  
19 associated with the assessment or treatment will be the responsibility of Mr. Sharp;
- 20 4. Documentation that he has he has undergone an evaluation by a psychotherapist or  
21 medical professional acceptable to the Commission, and the evaluator submits a written report  
22 to the Commission attesting that Mr. Sharp is medically stable, mentally and physically fit to  
23 serve as a licensed educator. Any costs associated with the assessment or treatment will be  
24 the responsibility of Mr. Sharp.

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1           Upon reinstatement of his teaching license, Mr. Sharp shall be placed on probation for  
2 a period of two years and subject to the condition that he comply with all Standards for  
3 Competent and Ethical Performance under Chapter OAR 584, Division 020.

4           Violation of the terms of this probation may constitute an independent basis for the  
5 Commission to impose discipline, up to and including revocation of Mr. Sharp' teaching license  
6 subject Mr. Sharp' right to a hearing on the issue of whether he violated probation.

7           Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July 2001

8           TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

9  
10           By: David V. Myton  
11                     David V. Myton, Executive Director

12          Approved as to form:

13  
14           Ralph E. Wisner     5/29/01  
15           Ralph E. Wisner, OSB #81423  
16           Attorney for Larry Dean Sharp