

STIPULATION OF FACTS

1
2 1. Mr. Connor holds a Basic Oregon Teaching License with Standard Social
3 Studies and Basic Reading Endorsements valid until January 9, 2002. He was
4 employed by Portland Public Schools as a teacher at Portsmouth Middle School
5 beginning in September of 1998 until resignation effective April 24, 2000.

6 2. Mr. Connor had no prior public school teaching experience.

7 3. Mr. Connor took an excessive number of photographs of the same female
8 student. The student reported that this made her feel uncomfortable.

9 4. Mr. Connor engaged in inappropriate horseplay with students in the
10 classroom: picking female students up in both arms, spinning them around; tickling; and
11 writing on them with magic markers.

12 5. Mr. Connor took students off campus to lunch without parental permission or
13 checking them out at the office.

14 6. Upon resignation of his teaching position with Portland Public Schools Mr.
15 Connor sought counseling and mentoring with his former professor Ken Peterson at
16 Portland State University.


17 7. Mr. Connor is currently substitute teaching at North Clackamas School
18 District.

19 8. Mr. Connor accepts responsibility for his behavior and acknowledges his
20 behavior was inappropriate in that he failed to maintain appropriate professional
21 boundaries with students.

22 This stipulation is contingent upon approval and adoption of the Order by the
23 Commission. If the Commission does not adopt this Order, neither Mr. Connor nor the

1 Commission are bound by these Stipulations and Mr. Connor retains all rights to a
2 hearing on the allegations.

3 IT IS SO STIPULATED:
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5 
6 Michael Connor

2/15/01
Date

7 
8 David V. Myton Executive Director
9 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
10

2/12/01
Date

11 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

12 Mr. Connor failed to demonstrate a commitment to use professional judgment
13 when he took students off campus to lunch without parent permission and without
14 building checkout in violation of OAR 584-020-0010(5). Mr. Connor failed to
15 demonstrate a commitment to use professional judgment when engaged in
16 inappropriate horseplay with students in violation of OAR 584-020-0010(5).

17 **ORDER**

18 The Commission imposes a Public Reprimand on Mr. Connor. This Stipulation of
19 Facts, Order and Probation constitutes the Reprimand. Furthermore, the Commission
20 imposes a one (1) year probation upon Mr. Connor subject to the following conditions:

- 21 1. Mr. Connor shall at his own expense, participate in an intensive education
22 program regarding appropriate boundaries with students conducted by a qualified
23 trainer approved advance by the Commission. This intensive training shall consist of, at
24 least, five (5) one and one-half (1 ½) hour sessions. The Commission will provide the

1 trainer with a copy of this Order on February 16, 2001. The program trainer will provide
2 the Commission with a report of successful program completion.

3 2. Mr. Connor shall comply with all Standards for Competent and Ethical
4 Performance under Chapter OAR 584, Division 020.

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

9 Dated this 9th day of March 2001

10 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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By: David V. Myton
David V. Myton, Executive Director

14 Approved as to form:

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Adrienne Nelson
Adrienne Nelson, OSB #96098
Attorney for Michael Connor