## IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

In the matter of the certificate of:

Case No. 22242

Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier,

STIPULATION

Respondent

#### BACKGROUND

The Professional Standards Commission received an allegation of unethical conduct concerning Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier. Following an investigation, the Executive Committee of the Professional Standards Commission reviewed the information before it and determined that probable cause exists for initiating an administrative action against Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier's certificate. The Executive Committee has recommended the following Stipulation.

#### STIPULATION

- 1. This is an agreement (Stipulation) between Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier (Mr. Kohlmeier) and the Executive Committee (the Executive Committee) of the Professional Standards Commission (the Commission).
- 2. If Mr. Kohlmeier wishes to agree to this Stipulation, he must sign and return this stipulation and any attachments to the Commission by 5:00 p.m. (Mountain Time) on March 17, 2023, unless he has been granted an extension.
- 3. After Mr. Kohlmeier and the Executive Committee agree to and sign this Stipulation, the Stipulation must be approved by the Commission, and the Commission must enter the attached consent order, before this Stipulation resolves the matter.
  - 4. A signed copy of this Stipulation may be submitted via mail or fax to:

STIPULATION – 1 Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier Professional Standards Commission

650 W. State St. 2nd Floor

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0027

Fax: (208) 334-2228 (Attn: Professional Standards Commission)

#### A. STIPULATED FACTS AND LAW

5. The Commission regulates educator certification in Idaho.

6. Mr. Kohlmeier holds the following certificate and endorsement issued under the

authority of the Idaho State Board of Education:

a. Standard Instructional Certificate with English (6-12) endorsement, effective

September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2027.

b. Administrator Certificate with School Principal (Pre-K-12) endorsement,

effective September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2027.

7. Mr. Kohlmeier was employed by the Boise Independent District beginning with the

2012-2013 school year and continuing through the 2022-2023 school year as a teacher.

8. Mr. Kohlmeier engaged in numerous inappropriate email communications with a

female student over the course of her sophomore (2018-2019) school year, junior (2019-2020)

school year, senior (2020-2021) school year and continued the communication after the student

left for college.

9. Mr. Kohlmeier's communication included repeated expressions that he "loves" the

student and offering to leave everything and run to her if she says the word.

10. Mr. Kohlmeier's communications included offers of gifts and show a pattern of

giving gifts to the student.

11. Mr. Kohlmeier's communications increased in frequency over time, and included

portions that are romantic in nature.

STIPULATION - 2

Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier

- 12. The Executive Committee determined that probable cause exists for initiating an administrative action against Mr. Kohlmeier for violating the following laws and rules governing educator certification:
  - a. Mr. Kohlmeier's conduct or course of conduct willfully violated a principle of the code of ethics that was adopted by the Idaho State Board of education. Idaho Code § 33-1208(1)("Willful violation of any professional code or standard of ethics or conduct, adopted by the state board of education."). Specifically, Mr. Kohlmeier violated Code of Ethics Principle II Idaho Admin Code r. 08.02.02.076.03)("A professional educator maintains a professional relationship with all students both inside and outside the physical and virtual classroom.").
- 13. Mr. Kohlmeier admits that he violated the laws and rules cited in paragraph 12 and acknowledges that there is sufficient evidence to support a finding of a violation of the laws and rules cited in paragraph 12, but denies that the communications with the student were romantic in nature.

#### B. STIPULATED DISCIPLINE

- 14. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, the following discipline will be imposed by the Commission on Mr. Kohlmeier's certificate:
- a. Mr. Kohlmeier's certifications will be suspended indefinitely with the condition that he provide evidence to the satisfaction of the Commission that this type of circumstance is very unlikely to reoccur in the future, prior to having his certificate unsuspended.
- 15. Any costs associated with Mr. Kohlmeier's compliance with the terms of this Stipulation are his responsibility.

16. During the pendency of this Stipulation Mr. Kohlmeier will comply with all laws and rules governing educator certification in Idaho.

#### C. PRESENTATION OF THIS STIPULATION

- 17. Once Mr. Kohlmeier signs this Stipulation and timely returns it to the Commission, and the Executive Committee signs this Stipulation, the Deputy Attorney General assigned to the Commission will present this Stipulation to the Commission at the Commission's next business meeting.
  - 18. The Commission may accept, reject, or modify the Stipulation.
- 19. If the Commission modifies this Stipulation, it must receive Mr. Kohlmeier's approval on any modification before the Stipulation is effective.

#### D. WAIVER OF RIGHTS

- 20. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, Mr. Kohlmeier knowingly: intelligently, and voluntarily waives the following rights:
  - a. the right to a hearing;
  - b. the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses;
  - c. the right to present evidence or to call witnesses, or to testify at a hearing;
- 21. If this Stipulation is approved by the Commission, the Commission may impose discipline upon Mr. Kohlmeier's certificate without further process.
- 22. By signing this Stipulation, Mr. Kohlmeier agrees to waive any requirement for a hearing under Idaho Code§ 33-1209(3) to be conducted within 90 days of a request for a hearing. This waiver applies to any hearing request made before the Commission ultimately rejects this Stipulation (if it does) or before Mr. Kohlmeier ultimately rejects a modified stipulation (if Mr. Kohlmeier does). If the Commission ultimately rejects this Stipulation or if Mr. Kohlmeier

ultimately rejects a modified stipulation, and Mr. Kohlmeier has requested a hearing, the 90-day hearing timeframe will begin from the ultimate rejection.

## E. GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 23. This Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, and Mr. Kohlmeier is not relying on any other agreement or representation, whether verbal or written.
- 24. This Stipulation, if approved by the Commission, or modified and approved, resolves a contested case. If approved, the Stipulation, consent order, and any attachment are public records. And if approved, the Commission may make available through its or the State Department of Education's website a copy of the Stipulation, consent order, and any attachment: and may report any discipline to the national clearinghouse for teacher certification.
- 25. Mr. Kohlmeier agrees that he has read this Stipulation, has had the opportunity to discuss it with legal counsel, if he so chose, and understands that by signing below, he will be agreeing to the terms of this Stipulation.

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# **SIGNATURES**

# Respondent

The Respondent, Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier, agrees to this Stipulation.

Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier Respondent

## **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee recommends that the Commission enter an Order based upon this Stipulation.

DATED this 4 day of April -2023

IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** 

Chanel Harming, Member

## IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

In the matter of the certificate of:

Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier,

Respondent

Case No. 22246
CONSENT ORDER

The Professional Standards Commission orders that the Stipulation, entered between Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier and the Executive Committee, is adopted as the informal disposition of this case, as permitted under Idaho Code § 67-5241. It will be effective on the // day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023. The discipline listed in the Stipulation is imposed on Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier's certificates under Idaho Code §§ 33-1208 and 33-1209. This is a final agency order, and Khristopher Linden Kohlmeier has waived the right of judicial review.

**IDAHO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION** 

Karen Pyron, Member

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day of April , 2023, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing by the following method to:	
Khristopher Kohlmeier, c/o Shane Reichert Idaho Education Association 620 N 6th Street Boise, ID 83702	<ul> <li>☑ U.S. Mail</li> <li>☐ Hand Delivery</li> <li>☑ Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested</li> <li>☐ Overnight Mail</li> <li>☐ Facsimile:</li> <li>☐ Email:</li> </ul>
Attorney for the Chief Certification Officer James E. ("Jim") Rice Deputy Attorney General P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0010	☐ U.S. Mail ☐ Hand Delivery ☐ Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested ☐ Overnight Mail ☐ Facsimile: (208) 854-8073 ☐ Email: jim.rice@ag.idaho.gov colleen.funk @ag.idaho.gov

Annette Schwab Program Specialist