

**DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF THE
ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS**

BETWEEN:

ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS

and

JAMES BRENT PATTERSON, OCT

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE OF THE ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS, pursuant to section 26, subsection (5) of the *Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996* (the "*Act*"), Statutes of Ontario, 1996, chapter 12, has directed that the matter hereinafter described regarding the conduct or actions of James Brent Patterson, Certificate No. 669072, be referred to the Discipline Committee of the Ontario College of Teachers.

IT IS ALLEGED that James Brent Patterson is guilty of professional misconduct as defined in the *Act* in that:

- (a) he abused a student or students psychologically or emotionally, contrary to Ontario Regulation 437/97, subsection 1(7.2);
- (b) he committed acts that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional, contrary to Ontario Regulation 437/97, subsection 1(18);

- (c) he engaged in conduct unbecoming a member, contrary to Ontario Regulation 437/97, subsection 1(19).

PARTICULARS OF THESE ALLEGATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. James Brent Patterson (the “Member”) is a member of the Ontario College of Teachers.
2. Between in or about August 2020 and March 2021 and between in or about August 2022 and October 2024, the Member was employed by the District School Board Ontario North East (the “Board”), including as an occasional and/or permanent teacher at [XXX] School (the “School”) in [XXX], Ontario.
3. Between in or about March 2021 and August 2022, the Member was employed by the Greater Essex County District School Board as an occasional and/or permanent teacher.
4. In or about the 2020-2021 academic year, Student 1, Student 2, Student 3, Student 4, and Student 5 (collectively, the “Students”) were Grade [XXX] students at the School. The Member taught the Students for part of the 2020-2021 academic year as an occasional teacher. After the 2020-2021 academic year, the Member did not teach any of the Students.
5. In or about August 2021, the Member invited students from the School that he had taught during the 2020-2021 academic year to meet him outside of the School for a social event. On one of those occasions, the Member put his hand on Student 1’s head and told her that she was thoughtful.
6. Between in or about November 2021 and November 2022, the Member exchanged emails with Student 2, Student 3, Student 4, and/or Student 5. The emails included

discussion of personal matters and matters unrelated to the School or educational purposes.

7. Between in or about November 2021 and September 2024, the Member exchanged emails with Student 1. The Member also arranged to meet Student 1 in person to provide her letters he had written to her. The emails and letters included discussion of personal matters and matters unrelated to the School or educational purposes.
8. In his communications with Student 1, the Member made inappropriate comments to Student 1 regarding the nature of their relationship, including but not limited to:
 - (a) commenting on the strength of their bond;
 - (b) acknowledging his communications were not appropriate and blurred boundaries;
 - (c) expressing concern that Student 1 was upset or mad with him;
 - (d) stating that Student 1 had an impact on him;
 - (e) stating that there was something he wanted to tell Student 1, but that he couldn't at this time because it was not appropriate, and that he would tell Student 1 in the future if she wanted;
 - (f) stating that he wanted to continue to talk with Student 1;
 - (g) requesting that Student 1 check his updated status on Facebook, which indicated that his relationship status was single; and/or

- (h) suggesting that he had not dated anyone for several years and that he did not want to date anyone else, because he did not want to upset someone that was important to him, which was a reference to Student 1.
9. In or about September 2024, Student 1 reported the Member to administration at the School. During his interview with administration at the School, the Member admitted that he:
- (a) started having feelings towards Student 1 when she was in Grade [XXX];
 - (b) thought that Student 1 had feelings for him;
 - (c) wanted to spend time with Student 1 after she graduated; and
 - (d) wanted to be in a relationship with Student 1 once she graduated.
10. Between in or about August 2021 and in or about September 2024, the Member failed to maintain appropriate professional boundaries with the Students.

THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A HEARING pursuant to sections 30, 32 and 32.1 of the *Act* to decide whether the allegations are true and whether James Brent Patterson is guilty of professional misconduct. A copy of the *Rules of Procedure of the Discipline Committee and of the Fitness to Practise Committee* (the “*Rules of Procedure*”) will be provided upon request and is also available on the College’s website.

THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE WILL HEAR THIS MATTER on a date to be determined after consultation between College Counsel and you or your counsel and fixed by the Tribunals’ Office.

YOU ARE ENTITLED TO BE PRESENT AT THE HEARING AND TO BE REPRESENTED BY LEGAL COUNSEL. The hearing will be held electronically using audio or video conferencing equipment, pursuant to the *Rules of Procedure* and the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.S.22 (the “SPPA”).

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND ON THE SCHEDULED HEARING DATE, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE MAY PROCEED WITH THE HEARING IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE PROVIDED WITH ANY FURTHER NOTICE OF PROCEEDINGS.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT AN ELECTRONIC HEARING OR ELECTRONIC SET DATE HEARING IS LIKELY TO CAUSE YOU SIGNIFICANT PREJUDICE, you must notify the Tribunals’ Office at 101 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 0A1. The Discipline Committee will then determine whether the hearing will proceed in person, electronically, in writing, or by a combination of these formats.

IF A DATE FOR THE HEARING AND/OR THE FORMAT OF THE HEARING ARE NOT AGREED UPON, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE WILL CONVENE TO DEAL WITH THE PROCEDURAL MATTER OF SETTING A DATE AND/OR ESTABLISHING THE FORMAT FOR THE HEARING. The procedural hearing will be held electronically using audio or video conferencing equipment, pursuant to the *Rules of Procedure* and the *SPPA*.

YOU ARE ENTITLED TO BE PRESENT WHEN THE COMMITTEE CONVENES TO SET A DATE AND/OR FORMAT FOR THE HEARING AND TO BE REPRESENTED BY LEGAL COUNSEL. IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND BEFORE THE COMMITTEE TO SET A DATE AND/OR FORMAT FOR THE HEARING, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE MAY

PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE TO SET THE DATE AND/OR FORMAT. NOTICE OF THE HEARING DATE AND/OR FORMAT SET BY THE COMMITTEE WILL BE PROVIDED TO YOU IN WRITING AT YOUR LAST KNOWN EMAIL ADDRESS AS SHOWN IN THE RECORDS OF THE COLLEGE.

IF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE FINDS YOU GUILTY of professional misconduct, you are liable to the penalties set out in section 30 of the *Act*.

A MEMBER whose conduct is being investigated in proceedings before the Discipline Committee may examine before the hearing any written or documentary evidence that will be produced or any report, the contents of which will be given as evidence at the hearing.

You or your representative may contact the office of Jordan Stone of Glick Feinberg Stone LLP, College Counsel in this matter, at 65 Front Street East, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M5E 1B5, telephone 416-596-2960.

Date: January 7, 2026

Registrar's Signature

Linda Lacroix, OCT, M. Ed.
Registrar and Chief Executive Officer
Ontario College of Teachers
101 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON M5S 0A1

TO: James Brent Patterson
[XXX][XXX]

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ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS**

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Glick Feinberg Stone LLP
65 Front Street East, Suite 200
Toronto ON M5E 1B5

Jordan Stone
Tel. 416-596-2960 ext 102

Counsel for the
Ontario College of Teachers