

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation or)
Suspension of the Educator Certificate of)
Alexandra D. McClure,)
Certificate 260690)
_____)

**ORDER OF
SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The Chair of the South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 28, 2016. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), § 59-5-10 (2004), and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) requested that the Chair of the State Board summarily suspend the educator certificate of Alexandra D. McClure, certificate 260690, as a result of her arrest on or about March 23, 2016, in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, and being charged with three counts of Sexual Battery with a Student, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-755 (2010). The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Ms. McClure may pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of students that may be under her instruction and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Ms. McClure's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Ms. McClure of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. McClure holds a professional South Carolina educator certificate and has over three years of teaching experience. Ms. McClure had been employed by the Spartanburg County School District 5 (District) as a Spanish teacher at Byrnes High School (School) since 2013. Ms. McClure resigned from her position with the District following allegations that she had a sexual relationship with a sixteen year old male student.

Ms. McClure was arrested on or about March 23, 2016, in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, and charged with three counts of Sexual Battery with a Student, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-755 (2010). This crime is classified as a felony. It is alleged that in October 2014,

Ms. McClure performed acts of a sexual nature on the student on three occasions, twice at her residence and another time after a school football game in her car. The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Ms. McClure may pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of students that may be under her instruction and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Ms. McClure's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Ms. McClure of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate.

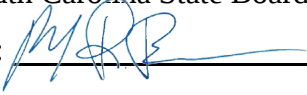
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, immorality, any conduct involving moral turpitude, crime against the law of this State, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2011). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), "If the agency finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action." Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann § 59-5-10 (2004) and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the Chair of the State Board finds that as a result of the allegations of Ms. McClure's unprofessional conduct, immorality, conduct involving moral turpitude, evident unfitness for position for which employed and her arrest for three counts of Sexual Battery with a Student, S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-755 (2010), there is reason to believe that Ms. McClure may pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of students and that emergency action is required. Accordingly, the educator certificate of Alexandra D. McClure, certificate 260690, is summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Ms. McClure of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

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AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: _____
Michael Brennan, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

March 28, 2016