

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Voluntary)
Surrender of the Educator)
Certificate of Susan H. Paschall)
Certificate 227366)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 9, 2016. On January 29, 2016, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice to Susan H. Paschall informing her that the State Board would meet to make a determination regarding the possible suspension of her educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. After Ms. Paschall received the notice, she informed SCDE that she desired to waive her right to a hearing in this matter and has agreed to enter into a Consent Order of Suspension of her educator certificate 227366. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Suspension for a period of one year from August 9, 2016, to August 8, 2017.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Paschall holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has over 9 years of teaching experience. She has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board or the Chester County School District (District). Ms. Paschall began working with the District in 2006, and was a first grade teacher at Chester Park Elementary School of Inquiry (School).

In a letter dated October 14, 2015, the District Superintendent reported to SCDE, pursuant to State Board Regulation R. 43-58.1, that Ms. Paschall had resigned her position amid allegations that she had falsified medical documentation to excuse her from work. On September 10, 2015, Ms. Paschall notified the administration via text that she would be absent from work from September 10, 2015, through September 15, 2015, due to a medical procedure. When asked to provide documentation from the doctor, Ms.

Susan H.
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Date

Paschall produced a forged document purporting to be from a medical doctor on September 25, 2015. Based on concerns of the validity of the document, the District contacted the doctor's office to verify the accuracy of the statement. However, the office indicated that Ms. Paschall was not a patient, had not undergone surgery as indicated, and that the statement provided had not been issued by their office.

On January 29, 2016, the SCDE sent notice to Ms. Paschall of the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. Ms. Paschall contacted the SCDE and informed them that she had agreed to waive her right to a hearing in this matter and accept a one year period of suspension of her educator certificate, commencing on August 9, 2016, and ending on August 8, 2017. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Paschall's educator certificate ^{8/5/16} 227366 for a period of one year, commencing on August 9, 2016, and ending on August 8, 2017.

Ms. Paschall agrees to the suspension of her educator certificate, subject to the following conditions: (1) her educator certificate will be suspended for one year beginning immediately upon the approval by the State Board of the Consent Order of Suspension; and (2) she has waived her right to a hearing and understands that the terms set forth are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct and dishonesty. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE demonstrates that Ms. Paschall engaged in unprofessional conduct and dishonesty whereas Ms. Paschall forged medical documents to excuse her from work. The State Board finds that the information presented supports its conclusion that just cause exists to suspend the educator certificate of Susan H. Paschall on the grounds of unprofessional conduct for a period of one year commencing on August 9, 2016, and ending on August 8, 2017.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Susan H. Paschall, certificate 227366, is suspended for a period of one year, commencing on

Susan H
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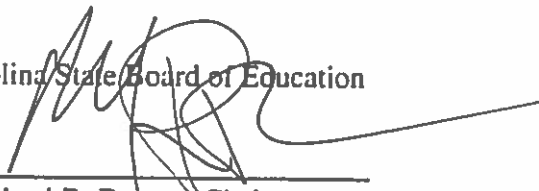
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August 9, 2016, and ending on August 8, 2017. If Ms. Paschall wishes to have her certificate reinstated at the conclusion of the period of suspension, she shall make a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services. Ms. Paschall shall be responsible for meeting all certification requirements in effect at the time she requests reinstatement and for the payment of any applicable reinstatement fees. The suspension of Ms. Paschall's educator certificate shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By:


Michael R. Brennan, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 9, 2016

I, Susan H. Paschall, S.C. Educator Certificate 227366, understand there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of educator certificate holders and that I have waived my right to a hearing in this matter. I agree that during the suspension period I will not serve as a volunteer or be employed as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, band teacher, coach, or in any other position in a public school in the State of South Carolina. I understand that the terms set forth in this Consent Order are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I freely, knowingly and voluntarily agree to the Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Consent Order will be presented as signed to the South Carolina State Board of Education on August 9, 2016.


Susan H. Paschall

07-03-16
Date