

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation or)
Suspension of the Educator Certificate of)
Tyrone Talbert,)
Certificate 903786)
_____)

**ORDER OF
SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The Chair of the South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 9, 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 Tyrone Talbert, certificate 903786 as a result of his arrest on or about June 3, 2016, in Greenville County, South Carolina, for the charges of Assault and Battery, 2nd degree, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §16-03-600(D)(1) (2015). The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Mr. Talbert may pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of students that may be under his instruction and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Mr. Talbert'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 Mr. Talbert of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Talbert holds a professional South Carolina educator certificate and has 21 years of teaching experience. Mr. Talbert has been employed by the Greenville County School District (District) since 2006. He was employed as a principal at Blue Ridge High School (School) at the time of the incident. Mr. Talbert was placed on administrative leave on or about June 2, 2016, following allegations that he had engaged in inappropriate behavior towards a coworker.

Mr. Talbert was arrested on or about June 3, 2016, in Greenville County, South Carolina, and charged with Assault and Battery, 2nd degree, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §16-03-600(D) (1) (2015). It is alleged that Mr. Talbert made inappropriate comments to a female coworker while chaperoning a school dance and days later made unwanted physical advances, groping the female co-worker in his office at the school. The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of this allegation of misconduct, Mr. Talbert may pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of students that may be under his

instruction and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Mr. Talbert'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 Mr. Talbert of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his 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 Mr. Talbert's unprofessional conduct, immorality, conduct involving moral turpitude, evident unfitness for position for which employed and his arrest on the misdemeanor charge of Assault and Battery, 2nd degree is reason to believe that Mr. Talbert may pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of students and that emergency action is required. Accordingly, the educator certificate of Tyrone Talbert, certificate 903786, 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 Mr. Talbert of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: 
Michael R. Brennan, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
June 9, 2016