

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Permanent)
)
Voluntary Surrender and Revocation)
)
of the Educator Certificate of)
)
Elizabeth Brooke McCombs,)
)
Certificate 273228)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PERMANENT
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 8, 2017. On April 26, 2017, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Ms. McCombs notice of possible action against her educator certificate. Ms. McCombs received the notice on May 8, 2017. Ms. McCombs informed the SCDE that she desires to waive her right to a hearing and enter into a Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of her educator certificate 273228, effective August 8, 2017.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. McCombs was employed by the Beaufort County School District (District) as a teacher at Hilton Head High School (School). On March 21, 2017, Ms. McCombs resigned from her position with the District. Ms. McCombs' resignation followed allegations of inappropriately discussing the intimate details of a relationship with current students.

Ms. McCombs has informed the SCDE that she no longer wishes to serve as a teacher in South Carolina. She agrees to the permanent surrender of her South Carolina educator certificate 273228 subject to the following conditions: (1) her educator certificate will become permanently invalid and permanently revoked immediately upon the approval by the State Board of the Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender; (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; and (3) she understands that the permanent surrender of her educator certificate will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina and the NASDTEC Clearinghouse as a permanent voluntary surrender and permanent revocation.

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 (2016); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160

Elizabeth
Brooke
McCombs
273228



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(2016). Just cause includes “unprofessional conduct and evident unfitness for position for which employed.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016); 2 S.C. Code Regs 43-58 (2016). The State Board finds that Ms. McCombs, a South Carolina educator, reported for allegations of inappropriately discussing the intimate details of a relationship with current students, has committed an act of unprofessional conduct and demonstrates evident unfitness for her teaching position for which she was employed.

Ms. McCombs does not oppose and accepts the State Board’s decision to approve the Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of her educator certificate 273228, issued under the name of Elizabeth Brooke McCombs, and accepts the permanent revocation and the rendering of permanent invalidity of Ms. McCombs’ educator certificate, effective June 13, 2017.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the educator certificate of Elizabeth Brooke McCombs, certificate 273228, is hereby declared permanently invalid and permanently revoked. The permanent voluntary surrender and permanent revocation of the educator certificate of Elizabeth Brooke McCombs, certificate 273228, shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

Elizabeth Brooke McCombs 273228
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<u>7/24/17</u> Date

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

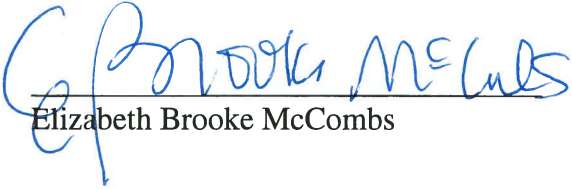
South Carolina State Board of Education

By:

Ivan Randolph
Ivan Randolph, Ph.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 8, 2017

I, Elizabeth Brooke McCombs, S.C. Educator Certificate 273228, understand there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of education certificate holders and that I have waived my right to a hearing in this matter. I understand that the terms set forth in this Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review; and I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily permanently surrender my educator certificate to the South Carolina State Board of Education. I hereby acknowledge that this permanent surrender shall have the same effect as a permanent revocation of my certificate. I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all right, title and privilege of holding myself out as and being able to practice as an educator in the public schools in the State of South Carolina. I agree that I will not serve 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 agree to the proposed Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Consent Order will be presented to the South Carolina State Board of Education on August 8, 2017.


Elizabeth Brooke McCombs


Date