

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension of)
)
the Certificate of Educator)
)
Solomon Grant Jr.)
)
Certificate 132812)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 13, 2017. On September 29, 2016, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice to Solomon Grant Jr., by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, informing him that the State Board would meet to make a determination regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate. Mr. Grant received the notice, as evidenced by his reply on October 11, 2016. Mr. Grant has agreed to enter into this Consent Order of Suspension of his educator certificate 132812 for one year. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Grant's educator certificate for a period of one year commencing on June 13, 2017, and ending on June 12, 2018.

Solomon
Grant Jr.
132812

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FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Grant holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has over 31 years of teaching experience. Mr. Grant has no prior history of disciplinary action with the State Board. Mr. Grant was hired by the Fairfield County School District (District) in 1995 and was serving as a math teacher at Gordon Odyssey Academy (School) for the 2014-2015 school year.

During the 2014-2015 school year, an audit of the School lead to allegations that Mr. Grant provided improper assistance to students. In a statement dated May 28, 2015, Mr. Grant admitted to helping students on their tests. Beyond even explaining a procedure or method to find the answer, Mr. Grant notes that there were times he typed in the answer himself if the student "didn't know what to do." Mr. Grant also kept a personal notebook of information regarding the testing software, though he claims no

students were allowed to see the notebook. In the statement, Mr. Grant says that he felt sorry for some of the kids who could not complete the work on their own. Although he claims good intentions to help his student, Mr. Grant admits what he did was wrong.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Grant's educator certificate for a period of one year commencing on February 14, 2017, and ending on February 13, 2018.

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 (2016). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016). The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE demonstrates that Mr. Grant engaged in unprofessional conduct by providing inappropriate assistance to students during testing. Mr. Grant has acknowledged that his conduct was improper. The State Board finds that the information presented supports its conclusion that just cause exists to suspend the educator certificate of Solomon Grant Jr. on the grounds of unprofessional conduct for a period of one year commencing on June 13, 2017, and ending on June 12, 2018.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Solomon Grant Jr., certificate 132812, is suspended for a period of one year commencing on June 13, 2017, and ending on June 12, 2018. If Mr. Grant wishes to have his educator certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, he must meet all certification requirements and shall submit a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services. Mr. Grant shall be responsible for the payment of all applicable fees, including any reinstatement fees. The suspension of Mr. Grant'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.

Solomon
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AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

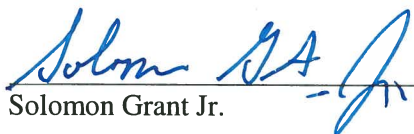
South Carolina State Board of Education

By:


Ivan Randolph, Ph.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
June 13, 2017

I, Solomon Grant Jr., S.C. Educator Certificate 132812, 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 understand that the terms set forth in this Consent Agreement are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily agree to the suspension of my educator certificate by the South Carolina State Board of Education. I agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Consent Order of Suspension will be presented to the South Carolina State Board of Education on June 13, 2017.


Solomon Grant Jr.


Date