

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Charles Harold Weber
Certificate 241819

Order of Summary Suspension

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on September 15, 2022. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2020), § 59-5-10 (2020), 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 Charles Harold Weber, educator certificate 241819, as a result of his arrest in Kentucky on the felony charge of Prohibited Use of Electronic Communication Systems to Procure Minor.

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Mr. Weber may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students, who 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. Weber'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. Weber of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Weber holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has over twelve years of educator experience. Mr. Weber was previously suspended by the State Board for inappropriate communications with a minor. After a one year suspension and remedial training in professional boundaries, his SC teaching certification was reinstated on March 15, 2019. At the time of his arrest, Mr. Weber was a teacher at High Point Academy (School) with the SC Public Charter School District (District). His employment has been terminated by the School.

On September 8, 2022, the District informed the SCDE that Mr. Weber was arrested and extradited to Kentucky. On September 15, 2022, the SCDE was able to confirm that Mr. Weber was charged with a felony in the state of Kentucky. The complaint alleges Mr. Weber knowingly used electronic means to promote the use of a minor or officer posing as a minor for any sexual activity.

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of this allegation of misconduct, Mr. Weber may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students who 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. Weber'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. Weber 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 (2020); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2020). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2020), "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 (2020) and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the Chair of the State Board finds that as a result of the allegations of Mr. Weber's unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United States, and evident unfitness for the position for which employed, there is reason to believe Mr. Weber may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students and emergency action is required.

Accordingly, the educator certificate of Charles Harold Weber, certificate number 241819, is summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise

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resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Weber of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina Board of Education

s/Alan Walters
Alan Walters, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
September 16, 2022