

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Dillon Edward Batman Monday
Certificate 287681

**ORDER OF SUSPENSION
(BREACH OF CONTRACT)**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 8, 2023. On June 6, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Dillon Edward Batman Monday a notice via regular and certified mail of his right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of his South Carolina educator certificate. The SCDE has verified Dillon Edward Batman Monday's address and the letter sent via regular mail has not been returned. On June 16, 2023, the SCDE informed Mr. Monday via regular mail that the State Board would meet on August 8, 2023, or as soon thereafter as is feasible, to consider action against his educator certification. Under the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure 5(b), Dillon Edward Batman Monday has been given fair notice of constitutional due process. Mr. Monday has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Dillon Edward Batman Monday's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing August 8, 2023, and ending on August 7, 2024.

FINDINGS OF FACT

This case concerns a formal complaint of the Greenville County School District (District) seeking the suspension of the educator certificate of Dillon Edward Batman Monday for breach of contract. The State Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2020) and S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-530 (2020).

On April 2, 2022, Mr. Monday signed a contractual agreement with the District to serve as a teacher for the 2022-23 school year. On April 24, 2023, Mr. Monday submitted his resignation to the District, effective May 1, 2023. Mr. Monday did not specify his reason for resigning his position; however, he noted an intent to apply the skillset he had

accumulated at the District in the next step of his career. On April 25, 2023, the District informed Mr. Monday he would not be released from his contract. The District Board voted to report Mr. Monday's breach of contract to the SCDE on May 23, 2023. The District reported the matter to the SCDE on June 5, 2023.

After considering the evidence, the State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Dillon Edward Batman Monday breached his contract with the District, and that just cause exists to suspend Mr. Monday's certificate 287681 for a period of one year, commencing on August 8, 2023, and ending on August 7, 2024.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." Just cause includes, *inter alia*, "unprofessional conduct" and "willful violation of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (3) and (4) (2020). Pursuant to 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2) and (14) (2021), the State Board of Education has the legal authority to suspend a certificate for "failure to comply with the provision of a contract without the written consent of the local school board." With respect to breach of contract, "any teacher who fails to comply with the provisions of his [or her] contract without written consent of the school board shall be deemed guilty of unprofessional conduct." S. C. Code Ann. § 59-25-530 (2020). "Upon formal complaint of the school board, substantiated by conclusive evidence, the state board shall suspend or revoke the teacher's certificate, for a period not to exceed one calendar year." *Id.*

The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Dillon Edward Batman Monday breached his contract without the consent and/or approval of the District. Accordingly, the evidence presented supports the State Board's determination that just cause exists to suspend the educator certificate of Dillon Edward Batman Monday for a period of one year, commencing on August 8, 2023, and ending on August 7, 2024.

Dillon Edward Batman Monday, 287681
ORDER OF SUSPENSION
August 8, 2023
Page 3 of 3

If Mr. Monday wishes to have his educator certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, he shall make a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services and shall meet all certification requirements in effect at the time she requests reinstatement. Mr. Monday shall also pay the applicable reinstatement fee. The suspension of Dillon Edward Batman Monday's educator certificate 287681 shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order, with the reason stated as "unprofessional conduct, breach of contract, willful neglect of duty, and failure to comply with the provisions of a contract without the written consent of the local school board."

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

s/Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D.

Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 8, 2023