

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
William Dren Seals
Certificate 163004

**ORDER OF SUSPENSION
(ADEPT)**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 8, 2023. On July 14, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Education's (SCDE) Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development sent William Dren Seals notice of his failure to meet the requirements of his ADEPT formal evaluation via certified mail. Pursuant to S.C. Reg. 43-58 (217), S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2017), and ADEPT System Guidelines (2021), a second unsuccessful ADEPT formal evaluation at the annual-contract level requires that Mr. Seals' South Carolina teaching certificate be automatically suspended for a minimum of two years. On July 19, 2023, Mr. Seals, received the notice, as evidenced by postal tracking. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Seals' certificate for a minimum of two years, beginning August 8, 2023, and ending August 7, 2025, provided that Mr. Seals successfully completes a state-approved remediation plan.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Seals holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has five years of teaching experience. The Williamsburg County School District ADEPT report to the Office of Educator Effectiveness indicated that Mr. Seals was unsuccessful in meeting the requirements of his ADEPT formal evaluation for the 2012-22 and 2022-23 school years.

As required by state law and regulation, Mr. Seals' educator certification will be suspended for a minimum of two years while he completes a remediation plan. The remediation plan course work must be completed within a five year period.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The State Board will automatically suspend for a minimum of two years the certificate of an annual-contract teacher who for the second time fails to meet ADEPT formal evaluation criteria. S.C. Code Ann. P 59-5-60 (2020); S.C. Reg. 43-58 (2017), S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2017). The

State Board finds that sufficient evidence has been presented supporting its conclusion that Mr. Seals failed to meet ADEPT formal evaluation criteria for a second time, warranting the suspension of his certificate for a minimum period of two years, commencing on August 8, 2023, through August 7, 2025, provided that Mr. Seals successfully completes a state-approved remediation plan. An “ineligible for hire” indicator will be placed in Mr. Seals’ certification file with the Office of Educator Services and will not be removed prior to August 7, 2025, provided that he successfully completes a state-approved remediation plan.

Before reentry into the profession and removal of the suspension, Mr. Seals must complete a state-approved remediation plan based on the areas that were identified as deficiencies during the formal evaluation process. Remediation plans must be developed and implemented in accordance with the State Board’s ADEPT implementation guidelines. Following the minimum two-year suspension period and the completion of the remediation plan, as certified by the Office of Educator Services, Mr. Seals educator certificate suspension will be lifted and Mr. Seals will be eligible for employment at the annual-contract level. All fees and eligibility requirements that are in effect at the time of Mr. Seals reapplication will apply.

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