

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Rita Rosenthal
Certificate 296092

CONSENT ORDER OF PUBLIC REPRIMAND

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 13, 2023. On March 28, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Rita Rosenthal a notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate 296092. After Ms. Rosenthal received the notice, she contacted the SCDE to discuss an alternative resolution. Ms. Rosenthal has agreed to waive her right to a hearing and enter into this Consent Order of Public Reprimand.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Public Reprimand of Ms. Rosenthal's educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Rosenthal holds a South Carolina educator certificate. She has over seventeen years of educator experience and has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. At the time of the incident, Ms. Rosenthal was employed by the Berkeley County Public School District (District) as a special education teacher at Foxbank Elementary School (School).

At the end of the 2020-2021 school year, Ms. Rosenthal received reprimands from School administration with various concerns. This included Ms. Rosenthal's failure to recertify with the Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) training. There were further concerns regarding the implementation of individualized education programs (IEPs), data processing, and record keeping for students. Ms. Rosenthal was allowed to resign from the District. Since her resignation, Ms. Rosenthal has undergone updated training for CPI

Rita Rosenthal
296092
s/RR
Initial
5/15/23
Date

certification. She has also taken several courses in specific areas for teachers of students with special needs, including one in data collection for enhanced academic and behavioral instruction.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Public Reprimand of Ms. Rosenthal's educator certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board 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 "incompetence; willful neglect of duty; willful violation of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education; unprofessional conduct; drunkenness; cruelty; crime against the law of this State or the United States; immorality; any conduct involving moral turpitude; dishonesty; evident unfitness for position for which employed; or sale or possession of narcotics." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2021). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Ms. Rosenthal engaged in unprofessional conduct due to the failure to implement student IEPs in a meaningful way and failure to maintain appropriate data and record keeping process for IEPs. The State Board further finds that just cause exists to publicly reprimand Ms. Rosenthal's educator certificate. The public reprimand of Ms. Rosenthal's educator certificate 2960921 shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Rita Rosenthal, certificate 296092, is publicly reprimanded.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

Rita Rosenthal
296092
s/RR
Initial
5/15/23
Date

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South Carolina Board of Education

s/Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D.
Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
February 14, 2023

I, Rita Rosenthal, SC Educator Certificate 296092, 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 the terms set forth in this Consent Order of Public Reprimand are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack, or judicial review. I agree to the terms of this Consent Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on June 13, 2023. I understand this Order will not become effective until approved by the State Board and, if not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding or prejudice the right of the State Board to adjudicate this matter. If approved by the State Board, I have the SCDE permission to use my electronic signature in the style of "s/name" for required website publication.

s/Rita Rosenthal
Rita Rosenthal

5/15/23
Date