

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Brian M. Schult
Certificate 222445

CONSENT ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 13, 2023. On February 2, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent a notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, to Brian M. Schult regarding the possible suspension of his South Carolina educator certificate 222445. After Mr. Schult received the notice, he contacted the SCDE to discuss an alternative resolution. Mr. Schult has agreed to waive his right to a hearing and enter into this Consent Order of Suspension of educator certificate 222445 for a period of one year. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Suspension of Mr. Schult's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on June 13, 2023, and ending June 12, 2024.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Schult holds a valid South Carolina educator certificate. He has over 15 years of educator experience and has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. At the time of the incident, Mr. Schult was employed by York County School District Four (District) as a teacher at Fort Mill High School.

Mr. Schult was reported to the SCDE by the District after his resignation on February 23, 2022. His resignation was in response to inappropriate remarks to students. When asked about the comments, Mr. Schult admitted to speaking too casually with students about personal topics. Since his resignation, Mr. Schult has also completed a course on educator ethics as a reminder in appropriate boundaries with students.

Brian M. Schult
222445
s/BS
Initial
5/4/23
Date

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Suspension of Mr. Schult's educator certificate 222445 for a period of one year, commencing on June 13, 2023, and ending on June 12, 2024.

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 (2016). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Mr. Schult engaged in unprofessional conduct by making inappropriate remarks to students. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Mr. Schult's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on June 13, 2023 and ending on June 12, 2024.

If Mr. Schult wishes to have the certificate reinstated at the conclusion of the period of suspension, he shall make a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services. Mr. Schult shall be responsible for meeting all certification requirements in effect at the time he requests reinstatement and for the payment of any applicable reinstatement fees. The suspension of Mr. Schult's educator certificate 222445 shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

Brian M. Schult
222445
s/BS
Initial
5/4/23
Date

Consent Order of Suspension
Brian M. Schult, Certificate 222445
June 13, 2023
Page 3

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Brian M. Schult, certificate 222445, is suspended for a period of one year, commencing on June 13, 2023, and ending on June 12, 2024.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina Board of Education

s/Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D.

Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
June 13, 2023

I, Brian M. Schult, SC Educator Certificate 222445, 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 Suspension are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack, or judicial review. I agree to the terms of this Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of 3 of 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/Brian M. Schult
Brian M. Schult

5/4/23
Date

Brian M. Schult
222445
s/BS
Initial
5/4/23
Date