

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Adrian Coates Godley
Certificate 308029

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PERMANENT VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on April 9, 2024. On February 28, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, to Adrian Coates Godley concerning pending action against certificate 308029. Ms. Godley received the notice and contacted the SCDE to discuss an alternate resolution. She has agreed to the voluntary surrender of her educator certification. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender of Ms. Godley's educator certificate 308029, effective April 9, 2024.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Godley holds an expired South Carolina educator certificate. She has no prior educator experience or any disciplinary action from the State Board. During the relevant time period, Ms. Godley served as a science teacher at Blythewood Middle School (School) for Richland County School District Two (District).

On March 30, 2022, the District received allegations that Ms. Godley exchanged inappropriate text messages with a student. The communication included non-academic matters, such as the student's personal relationships. The student also met with Ms. Godley during school hours but was not assigned to any of Ms. Godley's classes. Ms. Godley resigned from the District. She is no longer pursuing a career in education and has agreed to permanently surrender her South Carolina educator certification.

Adrian Coates Godley
308029
s/ACG
Initial
3/14/24
Date

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of Ms. Godley, educator certificate 308029, effective April 9, 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 (2016). Just cause includes “unprofessional conduct and evident unfitness for position for which employed.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2016). Accordingly, the evidence presented supports the State Board’s determination that just cause exists to revoke the educator certificate of Adrian Coates Godley, educator certificate 308029, effective April 9, 2024.

Now, therefore it is hereby ordered that the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the revocation of the educator certificate of Adrian Coates Godley, certificate 308029, shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina Board of Education

s/David C. O’Shields
David C. O’Shields, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
April 9, 2024

(Signature page attached)

Adrian Coates Godley
308029
s/ACG
Initial
3/14/24
Date

I, Adrian Coates Godley, SC Educator Certificate 308029, 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 Voluntary Surrender are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I agree to the terms of this Consent Order of Voluntary Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on April 9, 2024. I hereby acknowledge that this surrender shall have the same effect as a revocation of my certificate. I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all right, title and privilege of holding myself out as and being able to practice as an educator in the public schools in the State of South Carolina. I understand the term 'public school' includes any public charter school. 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 give the SCDE permission to use my electronic signature in the style of "s/name" for required website publication.

s/Ashley Coates Godley

Adrian Coates Godley

3/14/24

Date

Adrian Coates Godley

308029

s/ACG

Initial

3/14/24

Date