

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Hannah Maile Carlson
Certificate 279797

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 11, 2024. On February 28, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Hannah Maile Carlson a notice via regular and certified mail of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate. Ms. Carlson received the notice on April 1, 2024, as evidenced by a signed postal receipt. She did not request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Carlson's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2024, and ending on June 10, 2025.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Carlson holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has over four years of educator experience. At the time of the incident, Ms. Carlson was employed as a band director at Gregg Middle School (School) with Dorchester School District Two (District).

On March 23, 2023, Ms. Carlson reported to the school nurse and stated she had recently passed out. Administration reported to the nurse's office to check on her with the school's resource officer. Staff noted Ms. Carlson smelled strongly of alcohol. It was determined the water bottle she was carrying contained alcohol. Other empty and full containers of alcohol were located among Ms. Carlson's belongings.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Order of Suspension of Ms. Carlson's educator certificate 279797 for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2024, and ending on June 10, 2025.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education 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 unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2021). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Ms. Carlson engaged in unprofessional conduct. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Ms. Carlson’s educator certificate 279797 for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2024, and ending on June 10, 2025.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Hannah Maile Carlson, educator certificate 279797, is suspended for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2024, and ending on June 10, 2025.

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

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

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

Columbia, South Carolina
June 11, 2024