

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Sherri Creel Yarborough
Certificate 142573

**CONSENT ORDER OF
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 12, 2024. On January 31, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, to Sherri Creel Yarborough concerning pending action against certificate 142573. Ms. Yarborough 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. Yarborough's educator certificate 142573, effective March 12, 2024.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Yarborough holds a professional South Carolina educator certificate and has over thirty-six years of educator experience. She has no prior disciplinary action from the State Board. During the relevant time period, Ms. Yarborough served as the Director of the R.D. Anderson Technology Center (School) for Spartanburg County School District Six (District).

On September 7, 2021, the Office of the State Inspector General sent the SCDE an anonymous complaint they received from a member of the public. The complaint made a number of allegations against Ms. Yarborough. These included aggressive, intimidating, and discriminatory behavior towards School staff and students. The SCDE conducted an investigation into the complaint and notified Ms. Yarborough of the pending action. During the course of the

Sherri Creel Yarborough
142573
s/SCY
Initial
2/6/24
Date

investigation, Ms. Yarborough retired from education. She has agreed to surrender her educator certification.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender of Ms. Yarborough, educator certificate 142573, effective March 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 (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 Sherri Creel Yarborough, educator certificate 142573, effective March 12, 2024.

Ms. Yarborough has the right to reapply for certification after three years. She shall, pursuant to State Board Rule BBCDB, be subject to a character and fitness review before the State Board with employment information during the period of certificate surrender; community service records; letters of support from a current or prospective school district employer, if applicable; letters of support from community leaders; and SLED and FBI background checks. Ms. Yarborough shall also pay all applicable fees for certification, if any. The revocation of Ms. Yarborough’s educator certificate 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
March 12, 2024

(Signature page attached)

Sherri Creel Yarborough
142573
s/SCY
Initial
2/6/24
Date

I, Sherri Creel Yarborough, SC Educator Certificate 142573, 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 March 12, 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/Sherri Creel Yarborough
Sherri Creel Yarborough

2/6/24
Date

Sherri Creel Yarborough
142573
s/SCY
Initial
2/6/24
Date