

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Allen Robert Sorensen
Certificate 320779

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 4, 2026. On April 24, 2026, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Allen Robert Sorensen a notice via regular and certified mail of his right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of his South Carolina educator certificate. Mr. Sorensen received the notice on May 8, 2026, as evidenced by signed postal receipt. He has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Allen Robert Sorensen's educator certificate for a period of two (2) years, commencing on March 6, 2026, and ending on March 5, 2028.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Allen Robert Sorensen holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate. Mr. Sorensen has over two (2) years of educator experience and has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. During the time of the unprofessional conduct, Mr. Sorensen was employed as an educator in Florida.

On or about March 18, 2026, it was reported by the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education (NASDTEC) that on March 6, 2026, Mr. Sorensen's Florida educator certificate was revoked by the Education Practices Commission (EPC) of the State of Florida for a period of two (2) years for behaving in an inappropriate and unacceptable manner in front of students. The Florida order reflected that Mr. Sorensen discussed his own sexuality, stating he was gay, used obscene language, and spoke about sexual matters, making disparaging comments to students. Additionally, he accessed inappropriate websites related to drugs and sex on his school issued computer.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Order of Suspension of Allen Robert Sorensen's educator certificate 320779 for a period of two (2) years, commencing on March 6, 2026, and ending on March 5, 2028.

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 (Rev. 2004); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2025). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2025); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2016). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Allen Robert Sorensen engaged in unprofessional conduct by behaving in an inappropriate and unacceptable manner in front of students; discussing his own sexuality, using obscene language, speaking to students about sexual matters, making disparaging comments to students, and accessing inappropriate websites related to drugs and sex on his school issued computer. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Allen Robert Sorensen's educator certificate 320779 for a period of two (2) years, commencing on March 6, 2026, and ending on March 5, 2028.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Allen Robert Sorensen educator certificate 320779, is suspended for a period of two (2) years, commencing on March 6, 2026, and ending on March 5, 2028.

If Mr. Sorensen 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. Sorensen 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 Allen Robert Sorensen's educator certificate shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty (30) days from the date of this order.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

s/David M. Mathis
David M. Mathis, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 4, 2026