BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or Revocation of the Educator Certificate of Robbie Charles Certificate 203327	)	CONSENT ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 11, 2014. On November 18, 2014, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice to Robbie Charles of the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. Mr. Charles contacted the SCDE on November 21, 2013, requesting a hearing in the matter; however, Mr. Charles later agreed to waive his right to a hearing in this matter and accept a one year period of suspension of his educator certificate, commencing on June 11, 2014, and ending on June 10, 2015. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Charles' educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2014 and ending on June 10, 2015.

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Date
Robbie Charles
203327

FINDINGS OF FACT

Robbie Charles holds a professional educator certificate and has over thirteen years of teaching experience. Following a District inquiry regarding a statement Mr. Charles provided to the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division, Mr. Charles resigned from his position as a teacher at Lee Central High School effective August 22, 2013. In resigning, Mr. Charles admitted that during the 2010- 2011 school year he engaged in mutual flirtation with an adult female student with whom he had a friendship. Mr. Charles expressed regret for this unprofessional conduct.

Thereafter, Mr. Charles was notified by the SCDE of potential action on his educator certificate. In lieu of a hearing regarding this conduct, Mr. Charles consents to a suspension of his certificate for a period of one year.

After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Charles' educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2014 and ending on June 10, 2015.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). Just cause includes "unprofessional conduct". S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004) 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (Supp. 2009). The State Board finds that Mr. Charles engaged in unprofessional conduct and that just cause exists to suspend Mr. Charles' educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2014 and ending on June 10, 2015.

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Now, therefore, it is ordered that the educator certificate of Robbie Charles, certificate 203327, is hereby suspended for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2014 and ending on June 10, 2015. During the suspension period, Mr. Charles agrees not to be employed or to volunteer, in any capacity, in any school district in the State of South Carolina. If Mr. Charles wishes to have his educator certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, he must meet all certification requirements and shall submit a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services. Mr. Charles shall be responsible for the payment of all applicable fees, including any reinstatement fees. The suspension of Mr. Charles' educator certificate 248292 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 State Board of Education

By: _____

Barry F. Bolen, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

June 11, 2014

I, Robbie Charles, S.C. Educator Certificate 203327, understand that I have waived my right to a hearing in this matter. I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily enter into this Consent Order of Suspension. I agree that during the suspension period, I will not serve as a volunteer or be employed in any capacity, as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, coach, or in any other position in a public school in the State of South Carolina. I agree to the terms of the Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board of Education on June 11, 2014.

_____ 5/29/14

Robbie Charles Date