BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension	)	
	)	
of the Educator Certificate	)	**ORDER OF SUSPENSION**
	)	**(Failure to meet ADEPT Requirements)**
of Rebecca Long	)	
	)	
Certificate 904975	)	
	)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on October 8, 2014. On June 30, 2014, the South Carolina Department of Education's (SCDE) Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations sent Ms. Rebecca Long notice of her failure to meet the requirements of her ADEPT formal evaluation via certified mail. On July 12, 2014, Ms. Long received the notice as evidenced by a signed, return receipt bearing her signature. Pursuant to S.C. Reg. 43-58 (2011), S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2011), and the ADEPT System Guidelines (2006), a second unsuccessful ADEPT formal evaluation at the annual-contract level requires that Ms. Long's South Carolina teaching certificate be automatically suspended for two years. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Long's certificate for two years, beginning October 8, 2014, and ending October 7, 2016.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Long holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has over five years of teaching experience. The Beaufort-Jasper Career Center's annual ADEPT report to the Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations indicated that Ms. Long was unsuccessful in meeting the requirements of her ADEPT formal evaluation for the 2013-2014 school year. This was Ms. Long's second unsuccessful ADEPT evaluation at the annual-contract level.

On June 30, 2014, the SCDE's Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations sent Ms. Long notice of her failure to meet the requirements of her ADEPT formal evaluation for the second time via certified mail. On July 12, 2014, Ms. Long received the notice as evidenced by a signed, return receipt.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The State Board will automatically suspend for two years the certificate of an annual contract teacher who for the second time fails to meet ADEPT formal evaluation criteria. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-5-60 (2004); S.C. Reg. 43-58 (2011), S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2011). The State Board finds that sufficient evidence has been presented supporting its conclusion that Ms. Long failed to meet ADEPT formal evaluation criteria for a second time, warranting the suspension of her certificate for two years, commencing on October 8, 2014, through October 7, 2016. An "ineligible for hire" indicator will be placed in Ms. Long's certification file with the Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations and will not be removed prior to October 7, 2016.

Before reentry into the profession and removal of the suspension, Ms. Long must complete a state-approved remediation plan based on the area(s) that were identified as deficiencies during the formal evaluation process. Remediation plans must be developed and implemented in accordance with the State Board's ADEPT implementation guidelines. Following the two-year suspension period and the completion of the remediation plan, as verified by the Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Mr. Graham's educator certificate suspension will be lifted and Ms. Long will be eligible for employment at the annual contract level. All fees and eligibility requirements that are in effect at the time of Ms. Long's reapplication will apply.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: _____
Barry F. Bolen, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
October 8, 2014