

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the

Disciplinary Action of the

Educator Certificate of

Tyran Quante Veal

Certificate 276196

ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The Chair of the South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on September 24, 2019. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2017), § 59-5-10 (2017), and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) requested that the Chair of the State Board summarily suspend the educator certificate of Tyran Quante Veal, educator certificate 276196, as a result of his arrest on the felony counts of possession with intent to distribute marijuana, S.C. Code Ann. § 44-53-370(b)(2)(2017) and possession with intent to distribute within proximity of school S.C. Code Ann. § 44-53-370(A)(2017).

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Mr. Veal may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students, who may be under his instruction and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Mr. Veal's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Veal of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Veal holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has over four years of educator experience. At the time of his arrest, Mr. Veal was employed by Richland County School District One (District) as a teacher at A.C. Flora High School (School).

On September 11, 2019, Mr. Veal contacted the Columbia Police Department to report that he had been robbed on school grounds at Burton-Pack Elementary. During the investigation, law enforcement found Mr. Veal to be in possession of drug scales, a grinder, and 60 grams of marijuana. The drugs and drug related paraphernalia resulted in Mr. Veal's arrest on the felony counts of possession with intent to distribute marijuana, S.C. Code Ann. § 44-53-370(b)(2)(2017) and possession with intent to distribute within proximity of school S.C. Code Ann. § 44-53-370(A)(2017). Mr. Veal was placed on administrative leave from the District on September 16, 2019. On September 19, 2019, the SCDE received a report of Mr. Veal's arrest from the District.

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of this allegation of misconduct, Mr. Veal may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students who may be under his instruction, and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Mr. Veal's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Veal of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

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 (2017); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2017). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2017), "If the agency finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action." Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-5-10 (2017) and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the Chair of the State Board finds that as a result of the allegations of Mr. Veal's

unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United States, and evident unfitness for the position for which employed, due to his felony arrest for charges of possession with intent to distribute marijuana, S.C. Code Ann. § 44-53-370(b)(2)(2017) and possession with intent to distribute within proximity of school S.C. Code Ann. § 44-53-370(A)(2017), there is reason to believe Mr. Veal may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students and emergency action is required.

Accordingly, the educator certificate of Tyran Quante Veal, educator certificate 276196, is summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Veal of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education


Del-Gratia Jones, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
September 24, 2019