

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation or)
Suspension of the Educator Certificate of)
Jarryd L. McKie,)
Certificate 259864)
_____)

**ORDER OF
SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The Chair of the South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on October 13, 2015. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), § 59-5-10 (2004), 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 Jarryd L. McKie, certificate 259864, as a result of her arrest on September 10, 2015, for felony drug possession.

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Ms. McKie may pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of students that 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 Ms. McKie’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 Ms. McKie of the summary suspension, as well as, the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. McKie holds a professional South Carolina educator certificate and has over three (3) years of teaching experience in South Carolina. She has been employed by the Richland County School District One (District) since 2013 as an elementary school teacher at W.S. Sandel Elementary School (School). Ms. McKie’s and her boyfriend’s residence, according to records from the Richland County Sheriff’s Office, was searched after a confidential informant purchased narcotics from that location. On August 13, 2015, agents of the Richland County Sheriff’s Office initiated a legal search of the residence. Ms. McKie’s boyfriend admitted that drugs were located in the residence and directed agents to a drawer in the kitchen that contained multiple digital scales, baggies, approximately 25 grams of cocaine, approximately 5 grams of crack cocaine, and two plastic bags with white and green pills. Agents also located materials in

the kitchen that were consistent with manufacturing crack cocaine. An electric mixer, a Pyrex container, and a bowl that contained white residue, field tested positive for cocaine. A jar containing individual packets of Marijuana was located on a shelf in the dining room. Agents also located \$2000.00 in cash in the house. Agents determined the occupants of the residence included Ms. McKie, her boyfriend and her two children.

On September 10, 2015, Ms. McKie was arrested at the School and charged with possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, possession with intent to distribute marijuana and trafficking cocaine. Ms. McKie's alleged misconduct violated school board policies setting forth the District's expectations for staff conduct. As a result of her arrest, the District placed Ms. McKie on administrative leave on September 11, 2015.

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Ms. McKie may pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of students that 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 Ms. McKie'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 Ms. McKie of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

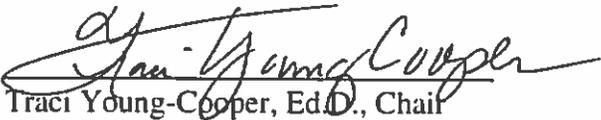
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"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 (2004). "'Just cause' may consist of any one or more of the following: . . . unprofessional conduct. . . [s]ale or possession of narcotics... [a]ny conduct involving moral turpitude. . . [or] [e]vident unfitness for position for which employed. . ." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), "[i]f 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 (2004), and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the Chair of the State Board finds that as a result of Ms. McKie's felonious actions of illegal possession of narcotics, with intent to distribute, she has engaged in unprofessional conduct, conduct involving moral turpitude, and demonstrated evident unfitness for position for which employed. The Chair also finds that there is reason to believe that Ms. McKie may pose a threat

to the health, safety and welfare of students and that emergency action is required. Accordingly, the educator certificate of Jarryd L. McKie, certificate 259864, 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 Ms. McKie of the summary suspension, as well as, the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate. The suspension of Ms. McKie's educator certificate 259864 shall be immediately reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: 
Traci Young-Cooper, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
October 13, 2015