

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension)
)
or Revocation of the Educator)
)
Certificate of Monikka E. Anthony)
)
Certificate 248292)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on October 9, 2013. On August 2, 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice to Monikka E. Anthony of the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. Ms. Anthony received the notice on August 6, 2013, and Ms. Anthony's attorney contacted the SCDE on August 7, 2013, concerning the resolution of this case. Ms. Anthony agreed to waive her right to a hearing in this matter and accept a one year period of suspension of her educator certificate, commencing on October 9, 2013, and ending on October 8, 2014. Ms. Anthony. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Anthony's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on October 9, 2013 and ending on October 8, 2014.

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| <i>9-11-13</i> |
| Date |
| Monikka E. Anthony 248292 |

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Anthony holds a professional educator certificate and has over one and a half years of teaching experience. Ms. Anthony was employed by Greenville County School District (District) for the 2012-2013 school year as a teacher and a coach at Woodmont High School (School). Ms. Anthony resigned from her employment, effective June 3, 2013, following an investigation into allegations involving inappropriate communications

with a male student in her class. In lieu of a hearing regarding this conduct, Ms. Anthony consents to a suspension of her certificate for a period of one year.

Ms. Anthony had been employed with the District since 2012. Ms. Anthony was employed pursuant to an annual contract with the District until District administration placed her on administrative leave on May 17, 2103, after it was reported that she had maintained inappropriate communications with a male student over the course of the school year. Ms. Anthony resigned her employment with the District on June 3, 2013.

On August 2, 2013, the SCDE sent notice to Ms. Anthony of the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. On August 6, 2013, Ms. Anthony received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing her signature. On August 7, 2013, Ms. Anthony requested a hearing, but later agreed to waive her right to a hearing in this matter and accept a one year period of suspension of her educator certificate. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Anthony's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on October 9, 2013 and end on October 8, 2014.

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 the evidence presented demonstrates that Ms. Anthony engaged in unprofessional conduct through inappropriate communications with a male student through the course of

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the school year, and that just cause exists to suspend Ms. Anthony's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on October 9, 2013 and ending on October 8, 2014.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the educator certificate of Monikka E. Anthony, certificate 248292, is hereby suspended for a period of one year, commencing on October 9, 2013, and ending on October 8, 2014. During the suspension period, Ms. Anthony agrees not to be employed or to volunteer, in any capacity, in any school district in the State of South Carolina. If Ms. Anthony wishes to have her educator certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, she must meet all certification requirements and shall submit a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services. Ms. Anthony shall be responsible for the payment of all applicable fees, including any reinstatement fees. The suspension of Ms. Anthony's 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

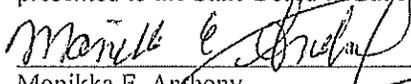
By: David W. Blackmon
David W. Blackmon, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
October 9, 2013

I, Monikka E. Anthony, S.C. Educator Certificate 248292, understand that there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of education certificate holders and 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

Anthony, Monikka E.
Consent Order of Suspension
October 9, 2013
Page 4

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 October 9, 2013.



Monikka E. Anthony

9-11-13
Date