

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension)
)
of the Educator Certificate)
)
of Deborah Anne Morris)
)
Certificate 239112)

**ORDER OF SUSPENSION
(Failure to meet ADEPT Requirements)**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 14, 2012. On July 7, 2011, the South Carolina Department of Education's (SCDE) Office of Educator Evaluation sent Ms. Deborah Anne Morris notice of her failure to meet the requirements of her ADEPT formal evaluation for the second time via certified mail. On December 20, 2011, SCDE sent a notice to the Horry County Sheriff's Department for personal service. Ms. Morris received the notice as evidenced by a proof of service dated January 12, 2012. Pursuant to 24 S.C. Reg. 43-58 (2011), 24 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. Morris' South Carolina educator certificate be automatically suspended for a minimum of two years. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Morris' educator certificate for a minimum of two years, beginning March 14, 2012, and ending March 13, 2014.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Morris holds an initial South Carolina educator certificate and has over two years of teaching experience. The Horry County School District's annual ADEPT report to the Office of Educator Evaluation indicated that Ms. Morris was unsuccessful in meeting the requirements of her ADEPT formal evaluation for the 2010-2011 school year. This was Ms. Morris' second unsuccessful ADEPT evaluation at the annual-contract level.

On July 7, 2011, SCDE Office of Educator Evaluation sent Ms. Morris notice of her failure to meet the requirements of her ADEPT formal evaluation for the second time via certified mail. On December 20, 2011, SCDE sent a notice to the Horry County Sheriff's Department for personal service. Ms. Morris received the notice as evidenced by a proof of

service dated January 12, 2012. Pursuant to 24 S.C. Reg. 43-58 (2011), 24 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. Morris' South Carolina educator certificate be automatically suspended for a minimum of two years. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Morris' certificate for a minimum of two years, beginning March 14, 2012, and ending March 13, 2014.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

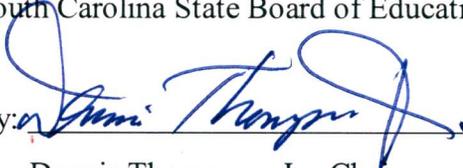
The State Board will automatically suspend for a minimum of two years the certificate of an annual-contract teacher who for the second time fails to meet ADEPT formal evaluation criteria. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-5-60 (2004); 24 S.C. Reg. 43-58 (2011), 24 S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2011). The State Board finds that sufficient information has been presented supporting its conclusion that Ms. Morris failed to meet ADEPT formal evaluation criteria for a second time, warranting the suspension of her educator certificate for a minimum period of two years, commencing on March 14, 2012, through March 13, 2014. An "ineligible for hire" indicator will be placed in Ms. Morris' certification file with the Office of Educator Certification and will not be removed prior to March 13, 2014.

Before reentry into the profession and removal of the suspension, Ms. Morris must complete a state-approved remediation plan based on the areas 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 minimum two-year suspension period and the completion of the remediation plan, as verified by the Office of Educator Evaluation, Ms. Morris' certificate suspension will be lifted and Ms. Morris will be eligible for employment at the annual-contract level. All fees and eligibility requirements that are in effect at the time of Ms. Morris' reapplication will apply.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

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South Carolina State Board of Education

By: 
Dennis Thompson, Jr., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
March 14, 2012