

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension)
)
or Revocation of the Educator)
)
Certificate of Vennie D. Mitchell)
)
Certificate 130094)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

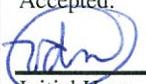
This matter comes before the South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) on April 9, 2014. By consent, Vennie D. Mitchell has agreed to a suspension of her educator certificate for a period of one year, beginning April 9, 2014, and ending on April 8, 2015, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to accept the suspension of Ms. Mitchell's educator certificate for this period.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Vennie D. Mitchell holds a professional South Carolina educator certificate and has thirty two years of teaching experience in South Carolina, having most recently served as Director of the Colleton County Alternative School and Pro 9 Program.

During the 2011-2102 school year, while employed as Director of the Colleton County Alternative School and Pro 9 Program, Ms. Mitchell took inappropriate actions with regard to student records in the Colleton County School District. Ms. Mitchell took this action without proper authority and absent the consent of a supervisor or administrator.

Ms. Mitchell has agreed to the suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate 130094 for a period of one year, beginning April 9, 2014, and ending on April 8, 2015. She has waived her right to a hearing and acknowledges that the terms set forth

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Date

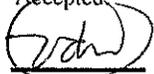
herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review, and that the suspension of her educator certificate will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina and the NASDTEC Clearinghouse as a one year suspension.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The State Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004). "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 (2011). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Ms. Mitchell has engaged in unprofessional conduct by taking inappropriate actions with regard to student records without proper authority and absent the consent of a supervisor or administrator, and that just cause exists to suspend her educator certificate for a period of one year, beginning on April 9, 2014, and ending on April 8, 2015.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the educator certificate of Vennie D. Mitchell, certificate 130094, is hereby suspended for a period of one year, beginning on April 9, 2014, and ending on April 8, 2015.

If Ms. Mitchell 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. Mitchell shall be responsible for the payment of all applicable fees, including any reinstatement fees. The suspension of Ms. Mitchell's educator certificate 130094 shall be reported to the NASDTEC

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Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

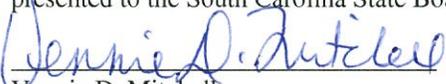
AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

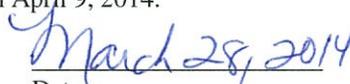
South Carolina State Board of Education

By: 
Barry F. Bolen, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
April 9, 2014

I, Vennie D. Mitchell, S.C. Educator Certificate 130094, understand 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 the matter. I understand that the terms set forth in the Consent Agreement are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that the Order will be presented to the South Carolina State Board of Education on April 9, 2014.


Vennie D. Mitchell


Date