BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension	)	
	)	
of the Educator Certificate of	)	**ORDER OF SUSPENSION**
	)	
Jordan Schreuder,	)	**(BREACH OF CONTRACT)**
	)	
Certificate 261533	)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 11, 2015. On February 6, 2015, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Mr. Jordan Schreuder notice of his right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of his South Carolina educator certificate, by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. Mr. Schreuder received the notice on February 12, 2015, as evidenced by a signed postal receipt bearing his signature. Ms. Schreuder did not contact SCDE to request a hearing and is in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Schreuder's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on March 11, 2015, and ending on March 10, 2016.

FINDINGS OF FACT

This case concerns a formal complaint by the Greenville County School District (District) seeking the suspension of the educator certificate of Jordan Schreuder for unprofessional conduct as a result of his breach of contract with the District. The State Board has jurisdiction in this matter, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004) and S.C. Code Ann § 59-25-530 (2004).

Mr. Schreuder holds a valid South Carolina educator certificate and has two years of teaching experience. On April 23, 2014, Mr. Schreuder signed a Contractual Agreement with the District for the 2014-2015 school year to work as a teacher at the Berea Middle School (School). On August 6, 2014, Mr. Schreuder sent a letter of resignation to the District stating that he was resigning from his position at the School because he wished to change professions and move back to Michigan. On August 12, 2014, the District gave Mr. Schreuder written notice that he was not being released from his contractual obligations because his resignation did not meet the

guidelines of Board Policy GBO. The notice also informed Mr. Schreuder that his decision to leave his position without proper release was considered a breach of contract and abandonment of his job. Mr. Schreuder did not return to the School. On August 28, 2014, the District informed the SCDE that on August 26, 2014, the District Board of Trustees had voted to recommend the suspension of Mr. Schreuder's South Carolina teaching credentials for breach of contract.

On September 9, 2014, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) attempted to send Mr. Schreuder notice of his right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of his South Carolina educator certificate, by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. The SCDE sent a second notice to Mr. Schreuder on February 6, 2015. Mr. Schreuder received the notice on February 12, 2015, as evidenced by a signed postal receipt bearing his signature. Ms. Schreuder did not contact SCDE to request a hearing and is in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Schreuder's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on March 11, 2015, and ending on March 10, 2016.

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). Just cause includes, *inter alia*, "unprofessional conduct" and "willful violation of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (3) and (4) (2004). Pursuant to 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2) and (14) (2011), the State Board of Education has the legal authority, *inter alia*, to suspend a certificate for "willful neglect of duty" and "failure to comply with the provisions of a contract without the written consent of the local school board." The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Mr. Schreuder breached his contract and engaged in unprofessional conduct, willfully neglected his duty, and failed to comply with the provisions of his contract without the written consent of the Greenville County School Board. The evidence presented further supports the State Board's determination that just cause exists to suspend the

educator certificate of Jordan Schreuder, certificate 261533, for a period of one year, commencing on March 11, 2015, and ending on March 10, 2016.

If Mr. Schreuder wishes to have his educator certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, he shall make a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services and shall meet all certification requirements in effect at the time he requests reinstatement. Mr. Schreuder shall also pay an applicable reinstatement fee. The suspension of Mr. Schreuder's educator certificate 216533 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: _____

Traci Young Cooper, Ed. D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

March 11, 2015