BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension of the Educator Certificate of Lakeshia Monechc Adams Certificate 218017	)	**ORDER OF REVOCATION** **(Failure to meet ADEPT Requirements)**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 14, 2013. On August 23, 2012, the South Carolina Department of Education's (SCDE) Office of Educator Evaluation sent Lakeshia Monechc Adams notice of her failure to meet the requirements of the Assisting, Developing and Evaluating Performance in Teaching (ADEPT) formal evaluation via certified mail. The certified mail was returned unclaimed. On March 15, 2013, the SCDE sent a second notice to a postal verified address to Ms. Adams. On March 16, 2013, Ms. Adams received the notice as evidenced by a return receipt bearing her signature. Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-26-40 (G) (2011) 2 S.C. Reg. 43-58 (2011), 2 S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2011), and the ADEPT System Guidelines (2006), the unsuccessful final opportunity to complete ADEPT formal evaluation at the annual-contract level following the completion of an ADEPT remediation plan requires that an educator's certificate shall be revoked. After considering the information presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to revoke Ms. Adams' educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Adams holds an initial South Carolina educator certificate and has over four years of teaching experience. She entered the ADEPT program in 2005 in Darlington County School

District One and completed the Induction year. In 2006, Ms. Adams failed to meet the requirements of the ADEPT formal evaluation in Dorchester County School District 4 and was not rehired. In 2007, Florence School District One hired Ms. Adams. Ms. Adams failed to meet the requirements of the ADEPT formal evaluation for the years 2007 and 2008. On July 1, 2008, the State Board suspended Ms. Adams' teaching certificate for failure to meet the formal evaluation criteria as required by law and regulation. Ms. Adams completed the required two year suspension period and the required ADEPT remediation plan. Ms. Adams certificate was reinstated on July 1, 2011. Ms. Adams subsequently began employment with Richland County School District One.

Richland County School District One's annual ADEPT report to the Office of Educator Evaluation indicated that Ms. Adams was unsuccessful in meeting the requirements of her ADEPT formal evaluation for the 2011-2012 school year. State Board Regulation 43-205.1 states:

> Following the minimum two-year suspension period and the completion of the remediation plan, as verified by the SCDE, the teacher's certificate suspension will be lifted, and the teacher will be eligible for employment at the annual-contract level. Upon his or her reentry into the profession, the teacher must be formally evaluated. If, at the completion of the evaluation process, the teacher meets the formal evaluation criteria set by the State Board of Education, he or she may continue toward the next contract level. If, at the completion of the evaluation process, the teacher does not meet the formal evaluation criteria set by the State Board of Education, he or she *is no longer eligible to be employed as a public school teacher in this state.* (Emphasis added).

On August 23, 2012, the (SCDE) Office of Educator Evaluation sent Ms. Adams notice of her failure to meet the requirements of her ADEPT formal evaluation via certified mail. The certified mail was returned unclaimed. On March 15, 2013, the SCDE sent a second notice to a postal verified address to Ms. Adams. On March 16, 2013, Ms. Adams received the notice as

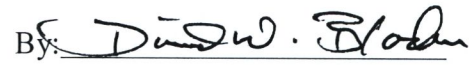
evidenced by a return receipt bearing her signature. Pursuant to 2 S.C. Reg. 43-58 (2011), 2 S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2011), and the ADEPT System Guidelines (2006), Ms. Adams is no longer eligible for employment as a public school teacher in this state, due to her failure to meet the formal evaluation criteria. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the State Board voted to revoke Ms. Adams' certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

A teacher who returns to teaching after being suspended by the State Board for failure to meet the ADEPT standards twice, and who fails to meet the formal evaluation criteria after reinstatement, is no longer eligible to be employed as a public school teacher in this state. 2 S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2011). The State Board finds that sufficient evidence has been presented supporting its conclusion that Ms. Adams failed to meet ADEPT formal evaluation criteria and is no longer eligible to be employed as a public school teacher in this state. Based on the requirements of 2 S.C. Reg. 43-205.1 (2011), the State Board hereby revokes the educator certificate of Lakeshia M. Adams, Certificate number 218017, effective August 14, 2013.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: 

Dr. David W. Blackmon, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 14, 2013