

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of Disciplinary Action)
)
of the Educator Certificate of)
)
Michael C. Sved,)
)
Certificate 270883)
_____)

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered the matter on August 14, 2018. On May 23, 2018, and June 7, 2018, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent a notice letter to Michael C. Sved informing him that the State Board would meet to make a determination regarding the possible disciplinary action of his educator certificate, by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested delivery restricted to addressee. Mr. Sved has received the notice, as evidenced by his emails to SCDE staff. Mr. Sved has not requested a hearing in this matter and is in default. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Sved's educator certificate for a period of one calendar year, commencing on August 14, 2018, and ending on August 13, 2019.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Sved holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has over seventeen years of teaching experience. Marion County School District Ten (District) employed Mr. Sved as a 4th grade teacher at Marion Intermediate School (School) for the 2017-2018 school year.

Mr. Sved was first placed on administrative leave in October 2017. At that time, Mr. Sved was given a written reprimand and three days of paid administrative leave after he allegedly told a student that if they were his child, the student "would be laying on the floor wondering what the hell happened." When approached regarding the incident, Mr. Sved continued to curse in front of School supervisors. He was sent home for three days after he told administration he "could use a day home."

On November 10, 2017, Mr. Sved was again placed on administrative leave after it was alleged he yelled and threw candy at a student. An assistant principal at the School heard Mr. Sved yelling in the office. Another staff member witnessed Mr. Sved bring the student to the

office. According to the witness, Mr. Sved placed the student on the bench of the front office and threw one piece of candy at time at the student as he yelled, “ You stole this, this, and this!” It was also alleged Mr. Sved cursed and showed an unprofessional level of aggression as he retrieved his belongings and left the School after being placed on administrative leave.

The District Board accepted a recommendation for termination of Mr. Sved on November 30, 2017. The District reported Mr. Sved’s termination to the SCDE on December 7, 2017. Mr. Sved was notified of possible action against his South Carolina educator certificate 270883. He did not request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Mr. Sved’s educator certificate for a period of one calendar year, commencing on August 14, 2018, and ending on August 13, 2019.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2017); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates Mr. Sved engaged in unprofessional conduct by threatening and yelling at students; throwing objects at a student; and cursing in front of students and coworkers.

Accordingly, the evidence presented supports the State Board’s determination that just cause exists to suspend the educator certificate of Michael C. Sved, Educator Certificate 270883, for a period of one calendar year, commencing on August 14, 2018, and ending on August 13, 2019.

If Mr. Sved 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. The suspension of Mr. Sved’s Educator Certificate 270883 shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

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AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: 
Sharon Wall, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 14, 2018