

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the)
)
Disciplinary Action of the)
)
Educator Certificate of)
)
Carly Jo Honea,)
)
Certificate 278105)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 12, 2018. On June 29, 2017, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Carly Jo Honea a notice letter by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail, regarding possible action against her educator certificate. After receiving the notice letter, Ms. Honea contacted the SCDE and advised she desired to waive her right to a hearing and pursue an alternative resolution in this matter. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Public Reprimand. Ms. Honea has also agreed to complete the NASDTEC Prevention and Correction training course.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Honea holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has two years of teaching experience. She has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. Ms. Honea had been employed by the Berkeley County School District (District) as a teacher at Cane Bay High School (School). On December 16, 2016, Ms. Honea resigned after allegations that she engaged in an inappropriate text message conversation including sexual innuendo with a student.

In her statements regarding the allegation, Ms. Honea asserted that she was trying to joke with a student, since he had previously pranked her class by hacking into the classroom's smartboard. In the text messages, which start on a Friday at 2:21 P.M. and end at 10:21 P.M., Ms. Honea asked the student to play a billiards game with her via a phone app. The student had previously seen Ms. Honea playing the game with her son. The game did not work on the student's phone, so Ms. Honea suggested they play

Carly
Jo
Honea
278105

GA

Initial

5/29/18
Date

something different. As they discussed the different “games” that could be possible, the conversation veered into comments regarding an inappropriate relationship with the student.

Ms. Honea denies she intended to begin an inappropriate relationship with the student, but understands the communications were inappropriate and are considered unprofessional conduct.

Ms. Honea has agreed to waive her right to a hearing and to resolve this disciplinary matter by entering into this Consent Order of Public Reprimand, subject to the following terms: (1) a Public Reprimand shall be issued by the State Board, (2) the Public Reprimand shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order, (3) Ms. Honea will complete the NASDTEC Prevention and Correction course, and (4) the Consent Order of Public Reprimand shall be posted on the SCDE’s website and shall be maintained as a public record in the SCDE’s Office of General Counsel. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Public Reprimand with the terms set forth above.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina 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 (2016). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2011). The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the District would not support a conclusion that just cause exists to suspend or revoke the educator certificate of Carly Jo Honea; however, the evidence that would be presented would support a conclusion that Ms. Honea engaged in unprofessional conduct as a result of inappropriate communications with a student. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the issuance of a Public Reprimand to Ms. Honea by the State Board. Ms. Honea has also agreed to complete the NASDTEC Prevention and Correction course.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the State Board hereby issues a Public Reprimand to Carly Jo Honea, certificate 278105. The Public Reprimand shall be

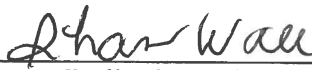
Carly
Jo
Honea
278105

CA
Initial
8/29/18
Date

reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order with the grounds listed as "unprofessional conduct." This Consent Order of Public Reprimand shall be posted on the SCDE's web site and shall be maintained as a public record in the SCDE's Office of General Counsel.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

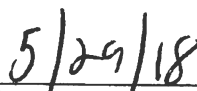
South Carolina State Board of Education


Sharon Wall Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
June 12, 2018

I, Carly Jo Honea, S.C. Educator Certificate 278105, understand there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of educator certificate holders and that I have waived my right to a hearing in this matter. I understand that the terms set forth in this Consent Order of Public Reprimand are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I have read the Consent Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of three pages, and I freely and voluntarily agree to the terms set forth therein. I understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the South Carolina State Board of Education on understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on Tuesday, June 12, 2018. I understand this Order will not become effective until approved by the State Board and, if not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding or prejudice the right of the State Board to adjudicate this matter.


Carly Jo Honea


Date