

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension)
Of the Educator Certificate of)
Glenda M. Patierno)
Educator Certificate 183796)

CONSENT ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on November 13, 2018. On August 1, 2018, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, to Glenda M. Patierno, concerning the pending action against her educator certificate 183796. After Ms. Patierno received the notice, she contacted the SCDE to request a hearing. Prior to the scheduling of a hearing in this matter, Ms. Patierno's counsel informed the SCDE that Ms. Patierno agreed to waive her right to a hearing and enter into this Consent Order of Suspension (Consent Order) of her South Carolina educator certificate 183796 for a one year period. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Suspension of Ms. Patierno's educator certificate for a period of one year commencing on November 13, 2018, and ending on November 12, 2019.

Glenda M.
Patierno
183796


Initial

10/30/18
Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Glenda M. Patierno holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has over twenty-one years of educator experience. Ms. Patierno was employed by the Berkeley County School District (District) as a special education teacher at Hanahan High School. She served as a special education teacher for two homebound students during the 2017-18 school year.

In April of 2018, concerns were raised regarding the conflicting service documentation provided by Ms. Patierno and a student's general education homebound teacher. Ms. Patierno admitted to forging the student's initials on attendance sheets. She explained the student had stopped coming to the special education sessions. Rather than report the student absent, Ms. Patierno forged his initials on the paperwork. This

paperwork recorded the student's attendance as well as Ms. Patierno's working hours for compensation. Ms. Patierno was terminated by the District, effective May 1, 2018.

Ms. Patierno asserts she was concerned reporting the absences would harm the student's academic record. She states she has repaid the District for the falsified time sheets. As evidence of the repayment, Ms. Patierno has provided the SCDE with a bank record showing \$993.60 was paid to the District.

Ms. Patierno has agreed to waive her right to a hearing and to resolve this disciplinary matter by entering into an alternate resolution to the action against her educator certificate. Ms. Patierno has agreed that her educator's certificate will be suspended for a period of one year. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Suspension of Ms. Patierno's educator certificate for a period of one year commencing on November 13, 2018, and ending on November 12, 2019.

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 (Rev. 2016); 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 (2016). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Ms. Patierno engaged in unprofessional conduct by turning in fraudulent paperwork for payment and as part of a student's record. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Ms. Patierno's educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on November 13, 2018, and ending on November 12, 2019.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that educator certificate 183796, issued to Glenda M. Patierno, is suspended for a period of one year commencing on November 13, 2018, and ending on November 12, 2019.

If Ms. Patierno wishes to have her certificate reinstated at the conclusion of the period of suspension, she shall make a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services. Ms. Patierno shall be responsible for meeting all certification requirements in effect at the time she requests reinstatement and for the payment of any applicable

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reinstatement fees. The suspension of Ms. Patierno's educator certificate 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: Sharon Wall

Sharon Wall, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
November 13, 2018

I, Glenda M. Patierno, SC Educator Certificate 183796, 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 the terms set forth in this Consent Order of Suspension are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I agree to the terms of this Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on November 13, 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.

Glenda M. Patierno
Glenda M. Patierno

10-30-18
Date