

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the)
)
Disciplinary Action of the)
)
Educator Certificate of)
)
Kathleen Endris Herriott,)
)
Certificate 261526)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on October 9, 2018. On August 1, 2018, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Kathleen Endris Herriott 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. Herriott 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.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Herriott holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has over seven years of teaching experience. She has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. Ms. Herriott was employed by Greenwood County School District 52 (District) as a teacher at Edgewood Middle School (School).

Ms. Herriott was placed on administrative leave on February 2, 2018, after it was alleged she had engaged in inappropriate conduct with a coworker while on school grounds. Ms. Herriott has admitted to the relationship, but denies any inappropriate conduct occurred on school grounds. Ms. Herriott chose to resign from the District, effective February 12, 2018.

Ms. Herriott 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

Kathleen
Endris
Herriott
261526


Initial

9/3/18
Date

Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order, and (3) 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 (2017); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2017). 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 Kathleen Endris Herriott; however, the evidence that would be presented would support a conclusion that Ms. Herriott engaged in unprofessional conduct as a result of inappropriate relationship with a coworker. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the issuance of a Public Reprimand to Ms. Herriott by the State Board.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the State Board hereby issues a Public Reprimand to Kathleen Endris Herriott, certificate 261526. 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 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.

(Signature page attached)

Kathleen
Endris
Herriott
261526

KH

Initial

9/3/18

Date

South Carolina State Board of Education

Sharon Wall
Sharon Wall Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
October 9, 2018

I, Kathleen Endris Herriott, S.C. Educator Certificate 261526, 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 to the State Board for approval on Tuesday, October 9, 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.

Kathleen Endris Herriott
Kathleen Endris Herriott

9/3/2018
Date