

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Hollie Hadac
Certificate 191785

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 10, 2021. On May 26, 2021, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Hollie Hadac a notice via regular and certified mail of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate. Ms. Hadac signed for the certified letter and the letter sent via regular mail has not been returned. Under the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure 5(b), Ms. Hadac has been given fair notice of constitutional due process. Ms. Hadac has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Hollie Hadac's educator certificate for a period of two years, commencing on August 10, 2021, and ending on August 9, 2023.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Hollie Hadac holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate. Ms. Hadac has over twenty-two years of educator experience and has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. Ms. Hadac was a speech language therapist at Pageland Elementary School (School) with the Chesterfield County School District (District) at the time of the incident. Ms. Hadac resigned her position with the District.

On November 18, 2020, the District notified the SCDE that Ms. Hadac was placed on administrative leave on November 9, 2020, following allegations of forgery. These allegations arose after a parent inquiry regarding a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting. The School's administration met with Ms. Hadac on November 2, 2020, to discuss the IEP meeting in question. Ms. Hadac stated the IEP meeting was held in September. However, no administrators recalled serving as the Local Education Agency (LEA) representative at the meeting and did not have the meeting listed in their personal calendars. Documentation later

revealed a signature page from the IEP meeting. The listed LEA representative and general education teacher from the School denied attending the IEP meeting and stated the signatures were not their own.

Ms. Hadac had previously been reprimanded for failure to complete IEP reviews and appropriate paperwork. On November 9, 2020, the District met with Ms. Hadac again to discuss the new allegations of the forged signatures from the IEP meeting. Ms. Hadac alleged she forged the LEA and general education signatures in order to show participation in the virtual meeting. Both staff members confirmed they did not actually attend the virtual meeting.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Order of Suspension of Hollie Hadac's educator certificate 191785 for a period of two years, commencing on August 10, 2021, and ending on August 9, 2023.

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. 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 (2016). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Hollie Hadac engaged in unprofessional conduct by forging signatures on official documentation and being dishonest. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Hollie Hadac's educator certificate 191785 for a period of two years, commencing on August 10, 2021, and ending on August 9, 2023.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Hollie Hadac's educator certificate 191785, is suspended for a period of two years, commencing on August 10, 2021, and ending on August 9, 2023.

If Ms. Hadac wishes to have the 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. Hadac shall be responsible for meeting all certification requirements in effect at the time she requests reinstatement and for the payment of any applicable reinstatement fees. The

Hollie Hadac, Certificate 191785
Order of Suspension
August 10, 2021
Page 3 of 3

suspension of Hollie Hadac's educator certificate 191785 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: s/ Kristi Woodall
Kristi Woodall, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 10, 2021