

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the  
Disciplinary Action of the  
Educator Certificate of  
Amy Haugh  
Certificate 299170

**ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The Chair of the South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on May 11, 2021. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2017), § 59-5-10 (2017), and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) requested that the Chair of the State Board summarily suspend the educator certificate of Amy Haugh, educator certificate 299170, as a result of her arrest on two counts of the felony charge of unlawful neglect of child, S.C. Code Ann. § 63-5-70 (2018).

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Ms. Haugh may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students, who may be under her instruction and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Ms. Haugh's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Ms. Haugh of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Ms. Haugh holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has over eight years of educator experience. At the time of her arrest, Ms. Haugh was a teacher for the Greenville County School District (District). She was placed on administrative leave at the time of her arrest and has since resigned from the District, effective April 1, 2021.

On or about January 15, 2021, Ms. Haugh was arrested on two counts of felony neglect of a minor. It was alleged that Ms. Haugh unlawfully caused bodily harm to a

minor under her custody. It was further alleged that Ms. Haugh placed the minor at an unreasonable risk of harm by exposing the minor to amphetamines.

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of this allegation of misconduct, Ms. Haugh may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students who may be under her instruction, and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Ms. Haugh's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Ms. Haugh of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate.

#### **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, crime against the law of this State, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2017). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2017), "If the agency finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action." Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-5-10 (2017) and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the Chair of the State Board finds that as a result of the allegations of Ms. Haugh's unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United States, and evident unfitness for the position for which employed, due to her felony arrest for two counts of unlawful neglect of a child, SC Code Ann. § 63-5-70 (2018), there is reason to believe Ms. Haugh may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students and emergency action is required.

Accordingly, the educator certificate of Amy Haugh, certificate number 299170, is summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise

Amy Haugh, Certificate 299170  
Order of Summary Suspension  
May 11, 2021  
Page 3

resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Ms. Haugh of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate.

**AND IT IS SO ORDERED.**

South Carolina State Board of Education

s/Kristi Woodall  
Kristi Woodall, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
May 11, 2021