

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Danielle Alicia Hayes
Certificate 257371

ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The Chair of the South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on November 29, 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 Danielle Alicia Hayes, educator certificate 257371, as a result of her arrest for forgery value \$10,000 or more, S.C. Code Ann. § 16-13-10(A) (2019), and bank fraud, S.C. Code Ann. § 34-03-110(A) (2019).

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Ms. Hayes 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. Hayes' 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. Hayes of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Hayes holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has over eight years of educator experience. She is not currently employed as an educator in South Carolina.

On or about March 24, 2021, Ms. Hayes was arrested for forgery and bank fraud. In July of 2019, Ms. Hayes deposited a check for \$26,754.42 into her savings account. A bank involved in the transaction alleged that the check was a forgery. The allegation

stated that the original check was not made out to Ms. Hayes and that the check had been altered.

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of this allegation of misconduct, Ms. Hayes 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. Hayes' 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. Hayes 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. Hayes' 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 arrest for forgery and bank fraud, there is reason to believe Ms. Hayes may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students and emergency action is required.

Accordingly, the educator certificate of Danielle Alicia Hayes, certificate number 257371, is summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is

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otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Ms. Hayes 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
November 29, 2021