

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Todd R. Vinson
Certificate 208572

ORDER OF REVOCATION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 13, 2023. On February 2, 2023, February 17, 2023, March 3, 2023, and April 14, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Todd R. Vinson a notice via regular and certified mail of his right to a hearing regarding the possible revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate. Mr. Vinson received the notice on April 27, 2023, as evidenced by a signed postal receipt. He contacted the SCDE but did not request a hearing and is now in default. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Mr. Vinson's educator certificate 208572, effective June 13, 2023.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Vinson holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has over eleven years of teaching experience in South Carolina. The SCDE does not have a record of Mr. Vinson teaching in a South Carolina public school since 2011.

On December 20, 2022, the SCDE learned Mr. Vinson voluntarily surrendered his Kentucky educator certificate on November 9, 2022. On May 4, 2021, the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board received a report with allegations of Mr. Vinson's unprofessional conduct. The allegations stated that Mr. Vinson had used inappropriate language with students, was verbally aggressive with coworkers, braided a student's hair and petted a student's sweater to help himself calm down. In response to the allegations, Mr. Vinson agreed to surrender his Kentucky educator certification. He further agreed to never apply nor be issued a Kentucky educator certification at any time in the future.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Mr. Vinson's educator certificate 208572, effective June 13, 2023.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2016). Just cause includes "unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United State, evident unfitness for position for which employed, and sale or possession of narcotics." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2016). The State Board finds that Mr. Vinson engaged in unprofessional conduct, due to being verbally aggressive with colleagues, using inappropriate language with students, braiding a student's hair, and petting a student's sweater to help himself calm down.

Mr. Vinson has the right to reapply for certification after three years. Mr. Vinson shall, pursuant to State Board Rule BBCDB, be subject to a character and fitness review before the State Board with employment information during the period of certificate surrender; community service records; letters of support from a current or prospective school district employer, if applicable; letters of support from community leaders; and SLED and FBI background checks. Mr. Vinson shall also pay all applicable fees for certification, if any. The revocation of Mr. Vinson'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 Board of Education

s/Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D.
Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
June 13, 2023