

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Lisa Ann Ballesteros
Certificate 273505

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PERMANENT VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on February 13, 2024. On September 1, 2020, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice via regular and certified mail, to Lisa Ann Ballesteros concerning the pending action of educator certificate 273505. After Ms. Ballesteros received the notice and timely requested a hearing on this matter. Prior to the hearing, Ms. Ballesteros contacted the SCDE to discuss an alternative resolution. Ms. Ballesteros has agreed to waive her right to a hearing and enter into this Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of Ms. Ballesteros's educator certificate 273505, effective February 13, 2024.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Ballesteros holds an expired South Carolina educator certificate and has over fourteen years of educator experience. At the time of the incident, Ms. Ballesteros was a special education teacher with Dorchester School District Two (District). She resigned from the District, effective January 16, 2020.

On February 14, 2020, Ms. Ballesteros was arrested for contributing to the delinquency of a minor, S.C. Code Ann. §16-17-0490 (2020). It was found that Ms. Ballesteros was overly involved in a student's home life, despite a directive from the District to stop all personal interactions with the student and their family. This included letting the student drive her personal vehicle, though he did not have a driver's license. On January 13, 2020, the student was reported as a runaway.

Lisa Ann Ballesteros
273505
s/LAB
Initial
1/6/24
Date

The student was located in a car with Ms. Ballesteros. On December 6, 2023, Ms. Ballesteros pled guilty to contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of Ms. Ballesteros, educator certificate 273505, effective February 13, 2024.

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 (Rev. 2004); S.C. Code Ann. § 56-25-160 (2016). Just cause includes “incompetence; willful neglect of duty; willful violation of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education; unprofessional conduct; drunkenness; cruelty; crime against the law of this State or the United States; immorality; any conduct involving moral turpitude; dishonesty; evident unfitness for position for which employed; or sale or possession of narcotics.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2016). The State Board finds that Ms. Ballesteros, South Carolina educator 273505, has engaged in unprofessional conduct and crime against the law of this State or the United States and that just cause exists to accept the permanent voluntary surrender of Ms. Ballesteros’s South Carolina educator certificate.

Ms. Ballesteros does not oppose and accepts the State Board’s decision to approve the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of educator certificate 273505, issued under the name of Lisa Ann Ballesteros, and accept the permanent revocation and permanent invalidation of her educator certificate, effect February 13, 2024.

Now, therefore it is hereby ordered that the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the revocation of the educator certificate of Lisa Ann Ballesteros, certificate 273505, 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

Lisa Ann Ballesteros
273505
s/LAB
Initial
1/6/24
Date

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BY: s/David C. O'Shields
David C. O'Shields, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
February 13, 2024

I, Lisa Ann Ballesteros, SC Educator Certificate 273505, 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 the terms set forth in this Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I agree to the terms of this Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on February 13, 2024. I hereby acknowledge that this permanent surrender shall have the same effect as a permanent revocation of my certificate. I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all right, title and privilege of holding myself out as and being able to practice as an educator in the public schools in the State of South Carolina. I understand the term 'public school' includes any public charter school. 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. If approved by the State Board, I give the SCDE permission to use my electronic signature in the style of "s/name" for required website publication.

s/ Lisa Ann Ballesteros
Lisa Ann Ballesteros

1/6/24
Date

Lisa Ann Ballesteros
273505
s/LAB
Initial
1/6/24
Date