

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the  
Disciplinary Action of the  
Educator Certificate of  
Beverley Kay Balsley  
Certificate 253129

**ORDER OF  
PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on October 7, 2025. On June 30, 2025, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Beverley Kay Balsley a notice letter by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail, regarding possible action against her educator certificate. Ms. Balsley received the notice on July 5, 2025, as evidenced by a signed postal receipt. Ms. Balsley has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to issue a public reprimand to Ms. Balsley and approved this Order of Public Reprimand.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Ms. Balsley holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has over thirty years of experience. At the time of the incident, Ms. Balsley was employed by the Greenville County School District (District) as a teacher at Slater Marietta Elementary School (School).

On March 14, 2023, School administration was made aware of an incident where Ms. Balsley dragged a student down the hall by the arm after they dropped to the floor refusing to follow. Ms. Balsley was placed on administrative leave on March 16, 2023. She subsequently resigned her position with the District, effective April 14, 2023. Law enforcement was made aware of the incident and no charges were filed. In statements to the SCDE and District, Ms. Balsley noted her actions were in response to the student banging their head against a window in the hallway and becoming irate when she directed the student to come with her. Ms. Balsley

maintained that her actions of dragging the student were necessary after the student refused to walk and that she did not intend any harm towards the student.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to issue a public reprimand to Ms. Balsley and approved this Order of Public Reprimand.

### **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 (2020); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2025). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2025); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2021). The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the District would not support a conclusion that just cause exists to suspend or revoke the educator certificate of Beverley Kay Balsley; however, the evidence would support a conclusion that Ms. Balsley engaged in unprofessional conduct by responding inappropriately to a student disciplinary issue by dragging the student down the hall. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the issuance of a Public Reprimand to Ms. Balsley by the State Board.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** it is ordered that the State Board hereby issues a Public Reprimand to Beverley Kay Balsley, certificate 253129. The Public Reprimand shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order with the grounds listed as “unprofessional conduct.” This Order of Public Reprimand shall be posted on the SCDE’s web site and shall be maintained as a public record in the SCDE’s Office of General Counsel.

**AND IT IS SO ORDERED.**

South Carolina State Board of Education

s/Rita Allison  
Rita Allison, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
October 7, 2025