



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

November 14, 2018

Brittney Ann Whetzel  
[REDACTED]

Re: S.C. Educator Certificate 266024

Dear Ms. Whetzel:

On November 13, 2018, the South Carolina State Board of Education voted to approve the Order of Revocation of your South Carolina educator certificate. A copy of the final Order of Revocation is enclosed for your information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. Hadden".

Holly M. Hadden  
Assistant General Counsel  
Office of General Counsel

HMH/twm  
Enclosure

cc: Molly M. Spearman, State Superintendent of Education  
Dr. Sharon Wall, Chair, State Board of Education  
Marcia Berry, Coordinator, Office of Educator Services, SCDE  
Herbert Berg, Superintendent, Beaufort County School District  
Reggie Deas, Director of Personnel, Beaufort County School District  
Wendy Cartledge, Legal Counsel, Beaufort County School District

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or )  
)  
Revocation of the Educator Certificate of )  
)  
Brittney Ann Whetzel )  
)  
Certificate 266024 )

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Ms. Brittney Ann Whetzel  
25 Robin Way  
Beaufort, South Carolina 29907

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME Tracy W. Moore, who, being duly sworn, deposes and says: That she is an Administrative Assistant for the South Carolina Department of Education, Office of General Counsel with offices at Columbia, SC; that on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018, she mailed in a sealed envelope, postage prepaid, a copy of the Order of Revocation to Ms. Whetzel at the above address.

Tracy W. Moore  
Tracy W. Moore  
Administrative Assistant

SWORN TO BEFORE ME this 14<sup>th</sup>  
DAY of November, 2018.

Latoria T. Holloway  
Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: My Commission Expires July 13, 2019



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

In the Matter of Revocation )  
 )  
of the Educator Certificate of )  
 )  
Brittney Ann Whetzel, )  
 )  
Certificate 266024 )  
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**ORDER OF REVOCATION**

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on November 13, 2018. On or about April 16, 2018, Brittney Ann Whetzel was charged with two felony counts of Sexual Battery with a Student, S.C. Code Ann. §16-3-755 (D) (2017). On April 24, 2016, the Chair of the State Board summarily suspended Ms. Whetzel’s educator certificate. On April 24, 2018, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent the summary suspension order and a notice letter to Ms. Whetzel regarding the possible suspension or revocation of her South Carolina Educator Certificate. Ms. Whetzel received the certified mail on April 30, 2018, as evidenced by the signed postal receipt. Ms. Whetzel has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Ms. Whetzel’s educator certificate effective October 9, 2018.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Ms. Whetzel holds a suspended South Carolina educator certificate and has over four years of teaching experience. Ms. Whetzel was employed as an English teacher at Battery Creek High School (School) with the Beaufort County School District (District). Ms. Whetzel was placed on administrative leave on April 12, 2018, following allegations she engaged in a sexual relationship with two male students.

On or about April 16, 2018, Ms. Whetzel was charged with two felony counts of Sexual Battery with a Student, S.C. Code Ann. §16-3-755 (D) (2017). Ms. Whetzel was also charged with three misdemeanor counts of Transfer of Beer or Wine for Underage Person’s Consumption, S.C. Code Ann. §61-4-90 (B) (2017). It is alleged Ms. Whetzel invited a coworker and two to three male students to her home. While at her residence, Ms. Whetzel allegedly provided the underage students with alcohol. During the incident, it is alleged Ms. Whetzel engaged in sexual relations with two of the students from the School. Her criminal charges are still pending in a criminal court of law.

On April 30, 2018, Ms. Whetzel received notification of pending action against her educator certification. She has not requested a hearing and is now in default. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Ms. Whetzel's educator certificate effective November 13, 2018.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2016); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016). 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 (2016). The State Board finds the evidence presented demonstrates that Ms. Whetzel engaged in unprofessional conduct and demonstrated an evident unfitness for position for which she was employed.

The State Board finds the evidence presented by the SCDE supports its decision that just cause exists to revoke educator certificate 266024, effective November 13, 2018, issued in the name of Brittney Ann Whetzel. The revocation of Ms. Whetzel's educator certificate 266024 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 State Board of Education

By: Sharon Wall  
Sharon Wall, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
November 13, 2018