

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Dylan Robert Dukes
Certificate 295080

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PERMANENT VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 2, 2025. On July 12, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) summarily suspended educator certificate 295080 and sent notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, to Dylan Robert Dukes concerning further pending action against the certificate. Mr. Dukes's educator certificate was summarily suspended due to his arrest for the felony charge of stalking. The SCDE received notification that Mr. Dukes agreed to the permanent voluntary surrender of his educator certificate 295080 as part of a guilty plea to harassment, first degree. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of Dylan Robert Dukes's educator certificate 295080, effective December 2, 2025.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Dukes holds a suspended South Carolina educator certificate and has over five years of educator experience. At the time of the incident, Mr. Dukes was employed as a music teacher at Starr Elementary School (School) for Anderson County School District Three (District). On July 11, 2024, the SCDE learned that Mr. Dukes sent over sixty "love letters" to a student that had recently graduated from the School. During a search of his classroom, it was discovered that Mr. Dukes possessed several non-sexual photos of the student. He had also recently joined the student's church. On November 12, 2025, the stalking charge was dismissed and a guilty plea

pursuant to North Carolina v. Alford was entered on the charge of harassment, first degree, with the surrender of his educator certificate being a condition of the plea.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender of Dylan Robert Dukes, educator certificate 295080, effective December 2, 2025.

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 (2020); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2025). 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 (2025); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2021). The State Board finds that Mr. Dukes, South Carolina educator, has engaged in unprofessional conduct, immorality, any conduct involving moral turpitude, and crime against the law of this State or the United States and that just cause exists to accept the permanent voluntary surrender of Mr. Dukes’s South Carolina educator certificate.

Mr. Dukes does not oppose and accepts the State Board’s decision to approve the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of his educator certificate 295080, issued under the name of Dylan Robert Dukes, and accept the permanent revocation and permanent invalidation of his educator certificate, effect December 2, 2025.

Now, therefore it is hereby ordered that the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the educator certificate of Dylan Robert Dukes, certificate 295080, shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

Dylan Robert Dukes
295080
s/DD
Initial
11/24/25
Date

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina Board of Education

s/Rita Allison
Rita Allison, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
December 2, 2025

I, Dylan Robert Dukes, SC Educator Certificate 295080, 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 3 pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on [date State Board Hearing scheduled]. 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 agree that I will not serve or be employed as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, band teacher, coach, or in any other position in a public school 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/Dylan Robert Dukes
Dylan Robert Dukes

11/24/25
Date

Dylan Robert Dukes
295080
s/DD
Initial
11/24/25
Date