BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Disciplinary Action of the Educator Certificate of Brianna Leigh McCarter Certificate 296109	**ORDER OF SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on September 1, 2026. On May 19, 2026, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Brianna Leigh McCarter a notice via regular and certified mail of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate. Ms. McCarter received the notice on May 27, 2026, as evidenced by USPS tracking. She contacted the SCDE to pursue an alternative resolution but ceased to engage. She has not requested a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Brianna Leigh McCarter's educator certificate for a period of two (2) years, commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on August 31, 2028.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Brianna Leigh McCarter holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate. Ms. McCarter has over four years of educator experience and has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. Ms.McCarter was employed by York School District 1 (District) as a special education teacher, at York Comprehensive High School.

On October 4, 2023, the SCDE became aware that on September 07, 2023, Ms. McCarter was placed on administrative leave due to her failure to supervise a special education student who left the school and was found walking some distance from the school. She subsequently resigned from the District effective September 21, 2023.

FITSNEWS

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Order of Suspension of Brianna Leigh McCarter's educator certificate 296109 for a period of two (2) years, commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on August 31, 2028.

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 (Rev. 2004); 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 (2016). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Brianna Leigh McCarter engaged in unprofessional conduct by her failure to supervise a special education student who left the school and was found walking some distance from the school. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Brianna Leigh McCarter's educator certificate 296109 for a period of two (2) years, commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on August 31, 2028.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Brianna Leigh McCarter educator certificate 296109, is suspended for a period of two (2) years, commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on August 31, 2028.

If Ms. McCarter wishes to have the certificate reinstated at the conclusion of the period of suspension, she shall make a written request to the SCDE's Office of Educator Services. Ms. McCarter shall be responsible for meeting all certification requirements in effect at the time she requests reinstatement and for the payment of any applicable reinstatement fees. The suspension of Brianna Leigh McCarter'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 State Board of Education

s/David M. Mathis
David M. Mathis, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
September 1, 2026

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