BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Disciplinary Action of the Educator Certificate of Christine Perez-Rubio Certificate 313183	**ORDER OF SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on September 1, 2026. On July 29, 2026, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Christine Perez-Rubio a notice via regular and certified mail of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate. Ms. Perez-Rubio received the notice on August 3, 2026, as evidenced by signed postal receipt. She has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Christine Perez-Rubio's educator certificate for a period of one (1) year, commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on August 31, 2027.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Christine Perez-Rubio holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate. Ms. Perez-Rubio has over two years of educator experience and has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. Ms.Perez-Rubio was employed by Greenville County School District (District) as a kindergarten teacher, at Grove Elementary School.

On October 11, 2023, Ms. Perez-Rubio inappropriately placed her hands on a student by grabbing them by the arm.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Order of Suspension of Christine Perez-Rubio's educator certificate 313183 for a period of one (1) year, commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on August 31, 2027.

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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 Christine Perez-Rubio engaged in unprofessional conduct by inappropriately placing her hands on a student by grabbing them by the arm. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Christine Perez-Rubio's educator certificate 313183 for a period of one (1) year, commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on August 31, 2027.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Christine Perez-Rubio educator certificate 313183, is suspended for a period of one (1) year, commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on August 31, 2027.

If Ms. Perez-Rubio 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. Perez-Rubio 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 Christine Perez-Rubio'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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