

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension)
)
or Revocation of the)
)
Educator Certificate of)
)
Paul J. Dodd)
)
Certificate 203808)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on April 14, 2011. On March 10, 2011, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Paul J. Dodd a notice of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate 203808 by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Mr. Dodd received the notice on or about March 15, 2011, and contacted the SCDE to discuss the resolution of this disciplinary matter involving his South Carolina educator certificate.

Prior to the scheduling of the hearing, Mr. Dodd advised the SCDE that he had agreed to waive his right to a hearing and had agreed to resolve this disciplinary matter by entering into this Consent Order of Public Reprimand, subject to the following terms: (1) a Public Reprimand shall be issued by the State Board; (2) the Public Reprimand shall be reported to all school districts in South Carolina with the grounds listed as "unprofessional conduct;" (3) he shall complete a course in Professional Ethics and provide SCDE with documentation of successful completion of the course; and (4) the Consent 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. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Public Reprimand with the terms set forth above.

Accepted
<u>Pd</u>
Initial
<u>3-31-11</u>
Date
Paul J. Dodd 203808

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Dodd holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate and has nine years of teaching experience. Mr. Dodd was employed by Greenwood County School District Fifty (District) as a physical education teacher at Woodfields Elementary School from 2001 until he resigned on June 4, 2010, following allegations that he made inappropriate remarks and gestures to staff members while employed with the District. Mr. Dodd was extremely cooperative with the District investigation and readily admitted that he made errors in judgment and that his conduct was unprofessional. Mr. Dodd has attended counseling sessions to address his behavior and his inappropriate conversations with adult staff members. Mr. Dodd has provided SCDE with documentation that he has successfully completed counseling. Mr. Dodd has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board.

On March 10, 2011, the SCDE sent Paul J. Dodd a notice of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate 203808 by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Mr. Dodd received the notice on or about March 15, 2011 and contacted the SCDE to discuss an alternative resolution to this disciplinary action involving his South Carolina educator certificate.

Prior to the scheduling of the hearing, Mr. Dodd advised the SCDE that he had agreed to waive his right to a hearing and had agreed to resolve this disciplinary matter by entering into this Consent Order of Public Reprimand, subject to the following terms: (1) a Public Reprimand shall be issued by the State Board; (2) the Public Reprimand shall be reported to all school districts in South Carolina with the grounds listed as "unprofessional conduct;" (3) he shall complete a course in Professional Ethics and provide SCDE with documentation of successful completion of the course; and (4) the Consent 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. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Public Reprimand with the terms set forth above.

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