

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Tracy Madarasz
Certificate 162883

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 3, 2025. On April 3, 2025, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Tracy Madarasz a notice via regular and certified mail of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate. Ms. Madarasz received the notice on April 9, 2025, 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 Tracy Madarasz's educator certificate for a period of three years, commencing on June 3, 2025, and ending on June 2, 2028.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Tracy Madarasz holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate. Ms. Madarasz has over thirty-one years of educator experience and has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. Ms. Madarasz was employed by Georgetown County School District (District) as a teacher, at Andrews High School.

On September 12, 2024, Ms. Madarasz was arrested on three counts of assault and battery, 3rd degree following an incident where she made inappropriate physical contact with students. On three separate occasions on that same date, Ms. Madarasz became frustrated with three special education students, striking one on the buttocks with a broom, and striking the second on the buttocks with her hand. Ms. Madarasz denied striking the student with the broom, advising she only pointed it at the student and that she slightly tapped the other student. Additionally, she became angry and made threatening comments towards her class. Ms. Madarasz advised that she sometimes made hyperbolic statements but would never harm anyone. Ms. Madarasz also made comments

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about not taking her medication. Ms. Madarasz successfully completed a pretrial intervention program and her criminal charges have been dismissed.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Order of Suspension of Tracy Madarasz's educator certificate 162883 for a period of three years, commencing on June 3, 2025, and ending on June 2, 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 (2016). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2016). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Tracy Madarasz engaged in unprofessional conduct by making inappropriate physical contact with students and making inappropriate comments towards students. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Tracy Madarasz's educator certificate 162883 for a period of three years, commencing on June 3, 2025, and ending on June 2, 2028.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Tracy Madarasz educator certificate 162883, is suspended for a period of three years, commencing on June 3, 2025, and ending on June 2, 2028.

If Ms. Madarasz 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. Madarasz 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 Tracy Madarasz'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 Mathis

David Mathis, Chair-Elect

Columbia, South Carolina

June 3, 2025