

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,	:	
Petitioner,	:	
	:	
v.	:	PSPC DOCKET NO. DI-21-011
	:	
STEPHANIE PATTERSON,	:	
Respondent.	:	

ORDER ACCEPTING SURRENDER

This matter is before the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (“Commission”) on the Department of Education’s (“Department”) Motion for Entry of Order. The Motion requests that the Commission accept the surrender of the certificate and employment eligibility of Stephanie Patterson (“Respondent”) in resolution of a Notice of Charges and Motion for Summary Judgment filed against her. The Motion was presented to the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 15, 2021. After careful consideration, the Commission enters this Order accepting Respondent’s surrender.

BACKGROUND

Respondent currently holds an Instructional II certificate in the areas of Early Childhood N-3, Special Education PK-12, and Elementary K-6. At all relevant times, Respondent was employed by the School District of Philadelphia as a teacher. The Department initiated disciplinary proceedings against Respondent with the filing of a Notice of Charges and Motion for Summary Judgment on January 29, 2021. The Notice of Charges alleges that Respondent was convicted of Endangering the Welfare of Children, 18 Pa.C.S. § 4304(a)(1), which is a crime set forth in section 111(e)(1) of the Public School Code of 1949. 24 P.S. § 1-111(e)(1). On January 31, 2021, Respondent

signed an Affidavit agreeing to surrender her certificate and employment eligibility. (Motion for Entry of Order, Ex. 1). On February 24, 2021, the Department filed a Motion for Entry of Order requesting that the Commission accept Respondent's surrender in lieu of further disciplinary proceedings.

SURRENDER

Pursuant to the Educator Discipline Act ("Act"), surrender shall mean the termination by consent of a certificate or employment eligibility. 24 P.S. § 2070.1b. Surrender of a certificate or employment eligibility constitutes discipline. Id. The Act authorizes the Commission to accept the surrender of Respondent's certificate and employment eligibility.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 22nd day of March 2021, upon consideration of the Motion for Entry of Order filed by the Department of Education, it is hereby Ordered:

1. The Motion is granted, and the Commission accepts the surrender of Respondent's certificate and her eligibility to be employed as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member.
2. Respondent's certificate and her eligibility to be employed as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member are, therefore, terminated effective on the date of this Order.
3. The acceptance by the Commission of the surrender of Respondent's certificate and employment eligibility shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent.

4. Respondent is not eligible to be employed in a school entity in a position requiring certification or as a charter or cyber charter school staff member or contracted educational provider staff member, or eligible for any certificate until her certificate and employment eligibility are reinstated in accordance with the Act.
5. In accordance with 24 P.S. § 2070.16(c), the Commission shall not reinstate Respondent's certificate and employment eligibility for the time period set forth in 24 P.S. § 1-111(e).
6. The Notice of Charges and Motion for Summary Judgment filed against Respondent are resolved.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND
PRACTICES COMMISSION

By:



Myron Yoder
Chairperson Pro Tempore



Attest:

Shane F. Crosby
Executive Director

Date Mailed: March 22, 2021