

IN THE MATTER OF : NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
THE CERTIFICATES OF : STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS  
STEPHEN L. TOWNSEND : ORDER OF SUSPENSION  
\_\_\_\_\_ : DOCKET NO. 1718-104

This matter was opened by the Board of Examiners (Board) by way of an Order to Show Cause issued to Stephen L. Townsend, as to why his teaching certificates should not be revoked. Townsend currently holds a Teacher of Elementary Grades K-8 Certificate of Eligibility, Teacher of Elementary Grades K-8 Certificate, Principal Certificate of Eligibility, and Principal Certificate.

After the teaching certification matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearing, Townsend presented a proposal to the Board in which he would agree to a 2-year suspension of his certificates. Townsend did not admit or concede the truth of the allegations in the Order to Show Cause.

After reviewing the proposal, at its meeting of March 3, 2023, the Board voted to accept it. Accordingly, on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2023, Stephen L. Townsend's Teacher of Elementary Grades K-8 Certificate of Eligibility, Teacher of Elementary Grades K-8 Certificate, Principal Certificate of Eligibility, and Principal Certificate are hereby SUSPENDED for 2 years, effective immediately. It is further ORDERED that Townsend return the above-mentioned certificates to the Secretary of the State Board of Examiners, Office of Certification and Induction, P.O. Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500 within 30 days of the mailing date of the decision.

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Rani Singh, Secretary  
State Board of Examiners

RS/KAG/cf

**Date of Mailing:**  
**via certified and regular mail**