

IN THE MATTER OF : NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
THE CERTIFICATES OF : STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
MELISSA L. HILLIARD : ORDER OF SUSPENSION
_____ : DOCKET NO. 2223-102

This matter was opened by the Board of Examiners (Board) by way of an Order to Show Cause issued to Melissa L. Hilliard on May 18, 2023, as to why her teaching certificates should not be revoked. Hilliard currently holds a Teacher of Elementary Grades K-8 Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing, issued August 2004; a Teacher of Preschool through Grade 3 Certificate of Eligibility, issued August 2004; and a Teacher of Students with Disabilities Certificate of Eligibility, issued November 2007.

After the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for hearing, Hilliard presented a proposal to the Board in which she would agree to a two (2) year suspension of her certificates. Hilliard did not admit or concede the truth of the allegations in the Order to Show Cause. After reviewing the proposal, at its meeting of May 22, 2025, the Board voted to accept it.

Accordingly, on this 22nd day of May 2025, it is therefore ORDERED that Melissa L. Hilliard's Teacher of Elementary Grades K-8 Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing, Teacher of Preschool through Grade 3 Certificate of Eligibility, and Teacher of Students with Disabilities Certificate of Eligibility are hereby SUSPENDED for two (2) years, effective immediately. It is further ORDERED that Hilliard return the above-mentioned paper certificates, if issued, 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.



Rani Singh, Secretary State
Board of Examiners

Date of Mailing:
via email, certified and regular mail

Appeals may be made to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.A.C.* 6A:4- 1.3(b).