| COUNTY OF HUGHES                    | )     | DIVISION OF THE SECRETARY  SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT. OF EDUCATION |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--|
|                                     | )<br> |  |
| In re: Certification Application of | )     | DSE 2025-03  |
| FAITH ISIDTO                        | )     | ORDER SUSPENDING   |
|                                     | )     | EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE                                       |

In accordance with and pursuant to the authority granted to the Secretary by SDCL § 13-42-4, 13-42-9, and ARSD article 24:18, and after review of the record herein, the Secretary issues the following Order:

- 1. The Secretary accepts the allegations of the Notice of Intent to Suspend Educator Certificate as true and enters the attached Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.
- 2. The educator certificate of Faith Isidto, Certificate #91578, issued on July 15, 2024, is hereby immediately suspended for a period of one year.
- 3. The Order and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are a public record pursuant to SDCL § 13-42-17.1 and ARSD 24:18:04:05.
- 4. Notification of this denial is to be placed on the NASDTEC registry and be placed in applicant's permanent certification file within the South Dakota Department of Education.

This constitutes final agency action and may be appealed to circuit court pursuant to ARSD 24:18:02:06.

Dated this the / do of July, 2025.

Dr. Joseph Graves

Secretary

South Dakota Department of Education

800 Governors Drive Pierre, SD 57501

| COUNTY OF HUGUES                                 | )           | SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT. OF EDUCATION  |
|--|-------------|----------------------------------|
| In re: Certification Application of FAITH ISIDTO | )<br>)<br>) | DSE 2025-03 FINDINGS OF FACT AND |
|  | )           | CONCLUSIONS OF LAW               |

Faith Isidto was issued a South Dakota Educator Certificate #91578, set to expire on July 1, 2029. After a review of the entire file, the Secretary enters the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- On or about April 30, 2025, the South Dakota Department of Education Office of Educator
   Certification (hereinafter "Department") served a Notice of Intent to Suspend Educator
   Certificate on Faith Isidto (hereinafter "Isidto") via certified mail, first-class mail, and email. The
   certified mail was confirmed to be delivered.
- 2. The Notice of Intent informed Isidto that if she failed to request a hearing within 30 days after service of the notice, the allegations of the Notice would be accepted as true by the Secretary.
- 3. The Department received no request for hearing from Isidto within the 30-day period.
- 4. Isidto broke her contract with Rock Creek Grant School at the start of the 2024-2025 school year.
- 5. Isidto did not pay the liquidated damages to Rock Creek Grant School in the amount of \$9,500.00 as agreed to in her contract for employment.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 6. Grounds for the denial or non-renewal of an educator certificate are provided in SDCL § 13-42.
- 7. The Secretary of the Department of Education has the power and authority to refuse to issue or renew a certificate. SDCL § 13-42-9.

- 8. The Secretary of the Department of Education has the power and authority to suspend or refuse to issue any certificate for a period of one year for breaking a contract with a school. SDCL § 13-42-10.
- 9. Isidto's breach of contract and abandonment of her employment constitute acts of moral turpitude to support the Department's intent to suspend in violation of SDCL § 13-42-9.
- 10. Isidto's breach of contract and pursuant to SDCL § 13-42.10, supports the Department's intent to suspend.
- 11. Any Conclusion of Law more properly designated as a Finding of Fact is hereby so designated.
- 12. Isidto's certificate should be suspended for a period of one year pursuant to SDCL §§ 13-42-9 and 13-42-10.

Dated this the 7th of July, 2025.

Dr. Joseph Graves

Secretary, South Dakota Department of Education