

**STATE BOARD MEETING DATE**

August 26, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of Certificate Surrender of **Shawn M. McMorris**, Case No. **C-2012-096**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Charles Easaw, Chief Investigator, Investigative Unit, State Board of Education

**MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW:** August 8, 2013

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**Shawn M. McMorris** holds a Provisional Early Childhood Education certificate valid May 10, 2012, through May 10, 2015, and a Substitute certificate valid August 31, 2011 through August 31, 2017.

On September 26, 2012, Alhambra Elementary School District (“District”) notified the Investigative Unit of the State Board of Education (“Board”) of an allegation that Ms. McMorris resigned without prior approval from the Governing Board. Subsequently, the Governing Board referred the matter to the Investigative Unit for possible action pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute (“A.R.S.”) § 15-545.

A.R.S. § 15-545, reads as follows:

*A certificated teacher shall not resign after signing and returning his contract, unless the resignation is first approved by the governing board. A teacher who resigns contrary to this section shall be deemed to commit an unprofessional act and, upon request of the governing board, shall be subject to such disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of certificate, as the state board of education deems appropriate.*

On April 4, 2013, the Investigative Unit notified Ms. McMorris of the intent of the State Board of Education to file a complaint seeking disciplinary action against her teaching certificates. After discussing the matter with Ms. McMorris, she chose to surrender her teaching certificates.

On May 22, 2013, the Investigative Unit received Ms. McMorris’ notarized affidavit surrendering her teaching certificates.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [ ] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED BELOW:**

That the Board **accepts the voluntary surrender** of Shawn M. McMorris’ teaching certificates and that all states and territories be so notified.

**ATTACHMENTS: YES [X] NO [ ]**