

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **License No. 189750**
MARILOU MORGAN HAWKINS)

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

The Tennessee State Board of Education (Board) disposes of this matter as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times pertinent hereto, Marilou Morgan Hawkins (“Respondent”) was licensed by the State Board of Education (“Board”) as a teacher in the State of Tennessee.
2. In February 2014, Respondent resigned from Lewis County Schools after using corporal punishment on a non-verbal student, in violation of the child’s behavioral intervention plan.
3. Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board’s intent to suspend her license based upon these findings, and of her right to a hearing. The certified letter was returned unclaimed. The U.S. Postal Service notation that a properly addressed certified letter is “unclaimed” is sufficient evidence of the addressee’s refusal to accept service and is sufficient legal notice to the addressee. By refusing delivery of the certified mail, Respondent has waived the right to a hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent’s conduct constitutes grounds for license revocation or suspension pursuant to Board Rule 0520-2-4-.01(9)(b)(6).

ORDER

The Tennessee State Board of Education hereby suspends Respondent’s license for one (1) year from the effective date of this order. Reinstatement shall be contingent upon proof of successful completion of behavioral intervention training.

During the period of suspension, Respondent shall not serve as a volunteer or be employed, directly or indirectly, as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, or in any other position in a public school in the State of Tennessee.

Approved by the Board this 25th day of July, 2014.

TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF
EDUCATION

BY: *B. Fielding Rolston*
B. Fielding Rolston, Chair

ATTEST: *Gary L. Nixon*
Dr. Gary L. Nixon, Executive Director

Sworn to and subscribed before me this *6th* day of *August*, 2014.

Phyllis E. Childress
NOTARY PUBLIC



MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:
January 9, 2016

After entry, a copy of this Order will be mailed to Respondent's last known address:

Ms. Marilou Morgan Hawkins
204 Willow Street
Hohenwald, TN 38462-1222