

**MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM:**

**December 2015**

**CONSIDERATION TO DISCIPLINE THE  
LICENSE TO TEACH OF ASHLAN KNOCHE-MARTIN, CASE # HR 15-005**

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

Section 168.071, RSMo

Consent  
Item

Action  
Item

Report  
Item

**DEPARTMENT GOAL NO. 3:**

Missouri will prepare, develop, and support effective educators.

**SUMMARY:**

Ashlan Knoche–Martin held a temporary authorization 2 certificate of license to teach in the area of Speech Language Pathologist, grades B–12 that expired on August 6, 2015.

Ms. Knoche–Martin had a binding probationary teacher’s contract with the Independence 30 School District (District) for the 2014–2015 school year.

On December 12, 2014, Ms. Knoche–Martin annulled her contract with the District by abandoning her position without Board of Education approval. In an October letter to the superintendent, she stated she would be leaving her Speech Language Pathologist position due to stress and the offer of another job.

With the exception of counseling, Ms. Knoche–Martin refused District offers of accommodation; by then she had already accepted the other job.

In January 2015, the Board voted in executive session to seek discipline against Ms. Knoche–Martin’s certificate. Also, in January the District found a suitable replacement for Ms. Knoche–Martin.

Ms. Knoche–Martin was present at the hearing and represented by counsel.

**PRESENTER:**

William Thornton, General Counsel, will participate in the presentation and discussion of this agenda item.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education suspend Ms. Knoche-Martin’s teaching certificate or any claim of certification for two (2) years pursuant to its authority under Mo. Rev. Stat. § 168.071 (Supp. 2014).