

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
BRITT ARNOLD KIRSTOPHER MOUNCE
SEPTEMBER 13, 2018**

PLSB CASE NO. 18-076

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on September 13, 2018, the Arkansas State Board of Education (Board) accepted the recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Subcommittee (Ethics Subcommittee) for disciplinary action against the teaching license of Britt Arnold Kirstopher Mounce (Educator Mounce). Based upon Educator Mounce's acceptance of the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation and the evidence presented, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Ark. Code Ann. 25-15-101 et seq., the Board hereby states as follows:

I. Findings of Fact

- a. The Arkansas Department of Education issued Educator Mounce a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2015, valid until December 31, 2019.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Mounce violated the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators (Code of Ethics) promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-422 and 6-17-428.
- c. On January 5, 2018, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Mounce violated Standard 1: An educator maintains a

professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom;
Standard 2: An educator maintains competence regarding his or her professional practice, inclusive of skills, knowledge, dispositions, and responsibilities relating to his or her organizational position; Standard 3: An educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices; and Standard 7: An educator maintains the confidentiality of information about students and colleagues obtained in the course of the educator's professional services that is protected under state law or regulations, or the written policies of the educator's school district, unless disclosure serves a professional purpose as allowed or required by law or regulations.

- d. On January 5, 2018, Educator Mounce was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate the allegations.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on April 9, 2018, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that reasonable belief existed to substantiate violations of Standards 1, 2, 3 and 7 in that Educator Mounce:
 - Used profane language in the presence of two students while discussing his (Educator) recent disciplinary action;
 - Failed to properly record student's attendance (records reflected student was in class even when he was not);
 - Disclosed the name of a student involved in his (Educator) recent disciplinary action.

The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board permanently revoke Educator Mounce's license.


- f. Educator Mounce was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation on April 11, 2018, by certified and regular mail.

- g. On August 3, 2018, Educator Mounce accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation, thereby waiving his right to any additional notices or any other rights he might have under the Administrative Procedure Act including those rights set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 25-15-212.
- h. At today's meeting, the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation and supporting documentation were presented to the Board as part of its consent agenda.

II. Conclusions of Law

- a. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting and pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-11-105, 6-17-401, 6-17-422, 6-17-428 and 25-15-201 et seq., and the Code of Ethics, the Board adopts the recommendations of the Ethics Subcommittee.
- b. Accordingly, the Board orders permanent revocation of Educator Mounce's license.
- c. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Mounce's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Dr. Jay Barth, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education