

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

On April 13, 2017, during a regular meeting of the Arkansas State Board of Education, pursuant to the legal authority and jurisdiction vested in the Board by Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-15-201 *et seq.*, and the Arkansas Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts (“Standards for Accreditation”), the Board considered whether to confirm the Arkansas Department of Education’s classification of the Lee County School District and Lee High School as being on probationary status for violation of the Standards for Accreditation.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On March 17, 2017, pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-203, the ADE notified the Lee County School District that the ADE had found both the District and Lee High School to be in violation of the Standards for Accreditation for the following reasons:

- Lee County School District: Failure to employ a counselor to meet the 1 to 450 student ratio; and
- Lee High School: Failure to offer/teach the 38 required courses (specifically, .5 units of drama and .5 units of social studies elective).

The ADE also notified the District that the State Board would consider this matter during its April 13, 2017 meeting, that the District had the opportunity pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-203 to appeal the ADE’s determinations, and that if the State Board confirmed the probationary status of the District or Lee High School, the State Board could take any of the actions listed in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-207(c).

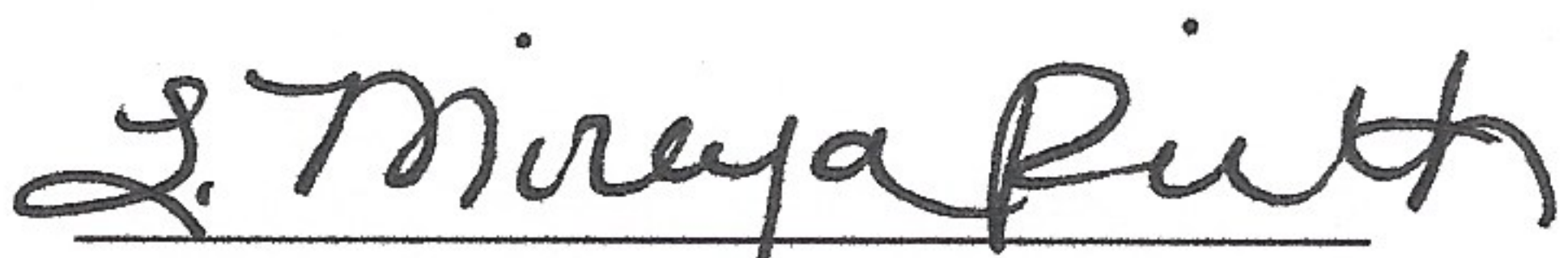
2. The District did not appeal the ADE’s determinations.

3. On April 13, 2017, the State Board took evidence and heard argument by the ADE and the District on this matter.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

Upon considered of the evidence and arguments presented, the State Board confirms the ADE's classification of the Lee County School District and Lee High School as being in probationary status for violation of the Standards for Accreditation. The State Board will take no action under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-207(c) at this time.

Signed this 25 day of April, 2017.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mireya Reith".

Mireya Reith, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education