

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
DELTON BROWN
OCTOBER 8, 2020**

PLSB CASE NO. 20-139

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on October 8, 2020, 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 Delton Brown (Educator Brown). Based upon Educator Brown's acceptance of the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation and the evidence presented, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure 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 Brown a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2019, valid until December 31, 2023.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Brown violated the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § § 6-17-422 and 6-17-428.
- c. On April 3, 2020, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Brown violated Standards 1 and 2; *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 professional and ethical behavior, skills,*

knowledge, dispositions, and responsibilities relating to his or her organizational position.

- d. Educator Brown was notified on April 6, 2020, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on August 6, 2020, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violation of Standards 1 and 2 in that Educator Brown:

	Allegation(s)	Preponderance of the Evidence Found	No Preponderance of the Evidence Found
Standard 1	An educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom. It is alleged that in violation of Standard 1, the Educator:		
	A. Inappropriate interactions with students	X	
Standard 2	An educator maintains competence regarding his or her professional practice, inclusive of professional and ethical behavior, skills, knowledge, dispositions, and responsibilities relating to his or her organizational position. It is alleged that in violation of Standard 2, the Educator:		
	A. Inappropriate disposition inclusive of professional and ethical behavior	X	

- f. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:
 - 1. Probation of license for 1 Year;

2. Assess a \$200 fine (due within 90 days of the State Board Order);
3. Require Educator to complete the following coursework/readings:
 - a) ERC20059: Professional Licensure Standards Board code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators: Ethical Scenarios in Education (2020)
Credit Hours: 1
 - b) ERC19048: Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB): The Code of Ethics Training Video (2018) Credit Hours: 1; Reflection on 19048- reflection on how the trainings will impact his teaching and interactions with students.
 - c) SPB14008: Behavior is Communication Credit Hours 1.5
 - d) Title: You've Gotta Connect: Building Relationships that Lead to Engaged Students, Productive Classrooms, and Higher Achievement (280 Pages) Author: James Alan Sturtevant ISBN-10: 1629500046 ISBN: 13: 978-1629500046
 - g. On August 7, 2020, Educator Brown's Attorney, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's initial determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail. Educator Brown accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation, on August 25, 2020, thereby waiving his right to any further notice, hearing, or any other rights he may 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, Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-11-105, 6-17-401, 6-17-422, 6-17-428 and 25-15-201 et seq., and the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators, the Board adopts the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendations, and enacts the sanctions accordingly. The Board admonishes Educator Brown for his violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Brown is cautioned that his non-payment of the assessed fine of \$200 may result in the suspension of his license until the fine is paid in full.
- c. Educator Brown is cautioned that further violations of the Code of Ethics or failure to pay the fine within ninety (90) days from the date of this order may result in more severe discipline including permanent revocation of his license.
- d. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Brown's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Charisse Dean, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education