

# THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:  
REBECCA MICHELLE QUOSS  
JANUARY 9, 2020**

**PLSB CASE NO. 19-185**

## **FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER**

At its regular meeting on January 9, 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 Rebecca Michelle Quoss (Educator Quoss). Based upon Educator Quoss'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 Quoss a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2018, valid until December 31, 2022.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Quoss 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 June 5, 2019, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Quoss violated Standard 6: an educator keeps in confidence secure standardized test materials and results, and maintains integrity regarding test administration procedures.

- d. Educator Quoss was notified on June 5, 2019, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on November 4, 2019, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violations of Standard 6 in that Educator Quoss:
- Engaged in testing improprieties.
- f. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:
1. Written Reprimand;
  2. Assess a \$100 fine (due within 90 days of State Board Order);
  3. Recommended Trainings/Course Work;
    - (i) ERC19048: Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB): The Code of Ethics Training Video (2018) Credit Hours: 1
    - (ii) ADE Test Security Training
  4. Written Reflection on how these trainings will affect the Educator's decisions in regards to testing in the future; and
  5. All costs to be paid by the Educator.
- g. On November 5, 2019, Educator Quoss was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's initial determination and recommendation by certified mail. Educator Quoss accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation thereby waiving her right to any further notice, hearing, or any other rights she 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 Rebecca Michelle Quoss for her violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Quoss is cautioned that her non-payment of the assessed fine of \$100 may result in the suspension of her license until the fine is paid in full.
- c. Educator Quoss 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 her license.
- d. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Quoss's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
Diane Zook, Chair  
Arkansas State Board of Education