

**THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:  
BELINDA FAYE JORDAN  
NOVEMBER 14, 2019**

**PLSB CASE NO. 19-143**

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

At its regular meeting on November 14, 2019, 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 Belinda Faye Jordan (Educator Jordan). Based upon Educator Jordan'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 Jordan a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2018, valid until December 31, 2022.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Jordan 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 May 3, 2019, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized investigations into allegations that Educator Jordan violated Standard 1: an educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside of the classroom; and 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.
- d. Educator Jordan was notified on May 3, 2019, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on September 5, 2019, and the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violations of Standards 1 and 2 in that Educator Jordan:
- Engaged in inappropriate interactions with students.
  - Made physical contact with a student
  - Exhibited an inappropriate disposition inclusive of professional and ethical behavior.
- f. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:
1. Probation of license for six (6) months;
  2. Assess a \$150 fine (due within 90 days of the State Board Order);
  3. Require Educator to complete the following coursework/readings:
    - ERC19048: Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB): The Code of Ethics Training Video (2018); Credit Hours: 1
    - SPB14005 Working with Children with Low Incidence Disabilities (2009); Credit Hours: 6.5
    - SPC17056 Discipline and the Section 504 Student; Credit Hours: 1.5
    - DYC15085 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; Credit Hours: 1
  4. Require Educator to prepare written reflection: that explains how trainings and readings will impact student interactions and classroom management in the future. (Due within 90 days of State Board Order); and
  5. Require Educator to pay all associated costs.
- g. On September 9, 2019, Educator Jordan was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation by first class and certified mail.

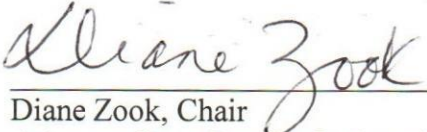
Educator Jordan accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation thereby waiving her right to any further notice, hearing, or any other rights she may have under the Administrative Procedure Act, including those rights set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 25-15-212.

- 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 Belinda Faye Jordan for her violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Jordan is cautioned that her non-payment of the assessed fine of \$150 may result in the suspension of his license until the fine is paid in full.
- c. Educator Jordan 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 Jordan's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
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Diane Zook, Chair  
Arkansas State Board of Education