

# THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:  
VICTOR L. JOYNER  
MAY 9, 2019**

**PLSB CASE NO. 19-056**

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

At its regular meeting on May 9, 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 Victor L. Joyner (Educator Joyner). Based upon Educator Joyner'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 Joyner a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2014, valid until December 31, 2018.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Joyner 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 October 5, 2018, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Joyner violated 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; and

Standard 3: an educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices.

- d. Educator Joyner was notified on October 8, 2018, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on March 1, 2019, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violations of Standards 2 and 3 in that Educator Joyner:
  - Attempted to falsify a student's grade(s);
  - Requested that another educator falsify a student's grade(s); and
  - Created a false document.
- f. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:
  1. Probation of license for 6 months;
  2. Assess a \$150 fine (due within 90 days of State Board Order);
  3. Require Educator to complete the following coursework/readings:
    - ERC19048: Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB): The Code of Ethics Training Video (2017)
    - Title: QBQ! The Question Behind the Question: Practicing Personal Accountability at Work and in Life (160p); Author: John G. Miller; ISBN 10: 0399152334/ISBN 13: 978-0399152337
  4. Require Educator to prepare written reflection: that explains how trainings and readings will impact his interactions with students and fellow educators (due within 90 days of the State Board Order); and
  5. Require Educator to pay all associated costs.
- g. On March 5, 2019, Educator Joyner, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail. Educator Joyner accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation 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 Victor L. Joyner for his violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Joyner is cautioned that his 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 Joyner 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 Joyner's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
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Dr. Jay Barth, Chair  
Arkansas State Board of Education