

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
BRITTANY AMANDA MORRISON
APRIL 11, 2019**

PLSB CASE NO. 18-147

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on April 11, 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 Brittany Amanda Morrison (Educator Morrison). Based upon Educator Morrison's failure to respond to 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 Morrison a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2018, valid until December 31, 2022.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Morrison 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 4, 2018, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Morrison 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 professional and ethical behavior, skills, knowledge, dispositions, and responsibilities relating to his or her organizational position.

- d. Educator Morrison was notified on May 8, 2018 of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on January 4, 2019, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violations of Standards 1 and 2 in that Educator Morrison:
 - Engaged in an inappropriate relationship with a student (sexual)
- f. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:
 - 1. Permanent revocation of license; and
 - 2. Assess a \$500 fine (due within 30 days of the State Board Order).
- g. On January 7, 2019, Educator Morrison, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail. Educator Morrison failed to respond to 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.

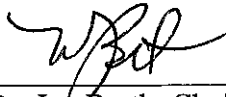
II. Conclusions of Law

- 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 Morrison for her violation of the Code of Ethics.

- b. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Morrison's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Dr. Jay Barth, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education