

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
STEPHANIE ANNE GODDARD
APRIL 11, 2019**

PLSB CASE NO. 19-032

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 Stephanie Anne Goddard (Educator Goddard). Based upon Educator Goddard'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 Goddard a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2015, valid until December 31, 2019.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Goddard 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 September 7, 2018, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Goddard violated 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; and Standard 3: an educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices.

- d. Educator Goddard was notified on September 7, 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 2 and 3 in that Educator Goddard:
 - Submitted falsified work time records
- 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:
 - ERC18064: 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
 - Title: The 85% Solution: How Personal Accountability Guarantees Success -- No Nonsense, No Excuses (256p); Author: Linda Galindo; ISBN 13: 9780470500163
 4. Require Educator to prepare written reflection: that explains how trainings and readings will impact professional practices (due within 90 days of the State Board Order); and
 5. Require Educator to pay all associated costs.
- g. On January 14, 2019, Educator Goddard, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail.

Educator Goddard 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 Goddard for her violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Goddard is cautioned that her non-payment of the assessed fine of \$200 may result in the suspension of her license until the fine is paid in full.
- c. Educator Goddard 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 Goddard'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