

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
NASH K. SIMPSON
DECEMBER 14, 2017**

PLSB CASE NO. 16-144

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on December 14, 2017, the Arkansas State Board of Education (Board) considered the matter of Nash K. Simpson (Educator Simpson) concerning the non-payment of a fine assessed by the Board. Based upon 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. On October 7, 2016, the Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Ethics Subcommittee (Ethics Subcommittee) unanimously found reasonable belief that Educator Simpson violated Standard 1 of the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educator.

Additionally, the Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board:

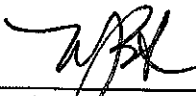
- Issue a written reprimand;
- Assess a \$50 fine;
- Require educator to complete training through the ArkansasIDEAS online portal taking *Course IAD14492-Classroom Management: Building Effective Relationships, 2nd Edition*, *Course IAE14017-The Learning Classroom: Feelings Count*, and *Course SOE14002-Social Studies in Action Exploring Unity and Diversity*;
- Require educator to submit written reflections to the PLSB office indicating how he benefited from each training. Statements are due no later than sixty (60) days from the final order date; and
- All costs to be paid by educator Simpson.

- b. Educator Simpson did not respond to the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation, thereby waiving his right to any further notice or hearing or any other rights he might have under the Administrative Procedure Act including those rights set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 25-15-212.
- c. On January 12, 2017, the Board entered its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order (Order) in which it adopted the Ethics Subcommittee's findings and recommended sanctions.
- d. In this order, the Board cautioned Educator Butler that failure to pay the fine within ninety (90) days from the date of the order may result in more severe discipline, including permanent revocation of his license.
- e. On February 13, 2017, the PLSB office mailed Educator Simpson the Board's Order via certified and first-class mail; this correspondence was received by Educator Simpson on February 17, 2017.
- f. On April 10, 2017, the PLSB office mailed Educator Simpson a second request for payment via certified and first-class mail; the certified mail was returned "unclaimed", but the first-class mail was not returned.
- g. On July 25, 2017 and November 14, 2017, the PLSB office mailed Educator Simpson letters notifying him that the PLSB would request suspension of his license until the required payment is received; the July 25th certified mail was returned "unclaimed", but the first-class mail was not returned. The November 14th certified mail and first-class mail have not been returned.
- h. Educator Simpson has not responded to the PLSB's collection attempts and has not submitted payment of the assessed fine.

II. Conclusions of Law

- a. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting and pursuant to 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 unanimously voted to suspend Educator Simpson's license until payment of the assessed fifty dollar (\$50.00) fine is received by the Arkansas Department of Education's PLSB office.
- b. Furthermore, Educator Simpson's license shall be reflected as suspended on the Arkansas Department of Education's public website for licensure until payment of the assessed fifty dollar (\$50.00) fine is received by the Arkansas Department of Education's PLSB office.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Dr. Jay Barth, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education