

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
DEBRA REYNOLDS
DECEMBER 14, 2017**

PLSB CASE NO. T15-005

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 Debra Reynolds (Educator Reynolds) 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 November 4, 2015, the Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Ethics Subcommittee (Ethics Subcommittee) unanimously found reasonable belief that Educator Reynolds violated Standard 6 of the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educator. Additionally, the Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board:
- Place educator's license on probation for two (2) years;
 - Assess a \$75 fine;
 - Require educator to complete training on testing procedures;
 - Training must be completed prior to educator administering any testing; and
 - All costs to be paid by educator Reynolds.
- b. Educator Reynolds accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation, thereby waiving her right to any further notice or hearing or any other rights she might have

under the Administrative Procedure Act including those rights set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 25-15-212.

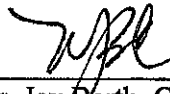
- c. On January 14, 2016, the Board entered its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order (Order) in which it adopted the Ethics Subcommittee's findings and recommended sanctions.
- d. The Board's order directed Educator Reynolds to pay the assessed seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) fine within ninety (90) days. The order further stated that, "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."
- e. On January 21, 2016, the PLSB office mailed Educator Reynolds the Board's order via certified and first-class mail; this correspondence was received on February 2, 2016.
- f. On July 7, 2016, the PLSB office mailed Educator Reynolds 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 September 13, 2016, the PLSB office mailed Educator Reynolds a third request for payment via certified and first-class mail; this correspondence was received on September 20, 2016.
- h. On July 25, 2017 and November 14, 2017, the PLSB office mailed Educator Reynolds letters notifying her that the PLSB would request suspension of her license until the required payment is received; the July 25th correspondence was received by educator on July 28, 2017, and the November 14th correspondence was received by educator on November 21, 2017.

- i. Educator Reynolds 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 Reynolds' license until payment of the assessed seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) fine is received by the Arkansas Department of Education's PLSB office.
- b. Furthermore, Educator Reynolds's license shall be reflected as suspended on the Arkansas Department of Education's public website for licensure until payment of the assessed seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) 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