

**THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:  
CANON BLAKE HOOVER  
OCTOBER 12, 2017**

**PLSB CASE NO. 17-154**

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

At its regular meeting on October 12, 2017, 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 Canon Blake Hoover (Educator Hoover). Based upon Educator Hoover'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 Hoover a standard five-year teaching license on March 13, 2015, valid until December 31, 2019.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Hoover violated the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators (Code of Ethics) promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-422 and 6-17-428. Specifically, the form alleged that Educator Hoover violated Standard 1: An educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom; 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 4: An educator entrusted with public funds and property, including school sponsored activity funds, honors that trust with honest, responsible stewardship.

- c. Educator Hoover was notified on March 6, 2017, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization on March 3, 2017 to investigate this allegation.

After considering the investigator's report and evidence on August 4, 2017, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that reasonable belief existed to substantiate violations of Standards 1, 2 and 4 in that he:

- Continuously engaged in inappropriate electronic communication with a student through text messaging, and/or social media to include, but not limited to, sexually explicit language, and/or acts that he would do to the student, and acts that are considered grooming;
- Engaged in Standard 1 sexual abuse of a student as defined by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-428 (p); and
- Inappropriately utilized his school issued laptop (computer) to engage in inappropriate communications with a student to include, but not limited to, the grooming of a student.

The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board permanently revoke Educator Hoover's license.

- d. Educator Hoover was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation on August 9, 2017, by certified and regular mail. On August 19, 2017, Educator Hoover accepted the Ethic Subcommittee's recommendation, and waived his right to any further notice, 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.

- e. 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, 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 Code of Ethics, the Board adopts the recommendations of the Ethics Subcommittee.
- b. Accordingly, the Board orders permanent revocation of Educator Hoover's license.
- c. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Hoover'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