

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
CHAE DAENEL COAN
OCTOBER 12, 2017**

PLSB CASE NO. 17-186

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 Chae Daenel Coan (Educator Coan). Based upon Educator Coan'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 Coan a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2014, valid until December 31, 2018.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Coan 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.
- c. On May 5, 2017, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Coan violated Standard 1: An educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom; and 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.

d. On May 8, 2017, Educator Coan was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate the allegations.

e. On August 4, 2017, after considering the investigator's report and evidence, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found reasonable belief that Educator Coan violated Standards 1 and 2 of the Code of Ethics when she:

- Used social media to identify a student who allegedly was involved in the rape of a student to which students, parents, and other members of the school community had access to read the comment; and
- Made demeaning/embarrassing/threatening remarks about a student on Facebook.

The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board:

- Issue a written reprimand;
 - Assess a \$50 fine to be paid within ninety (90) days of the State Board's final order;
 - Require her to complete training through the ArkansasIDEAS online portal taking *Course TCC 14435: Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB): Social Media Guidelines* (3 hours);
 - Require her to complete training through the ArkansasIDEAS online portal taking *Course HWD 14482: Bullying: Taking Charge, 2nd Edition* (11.5 hours);
 - Require her to submit a written reflection to the PLSB Office on each training indicating how the courses affected her interaction with students in and outside the classroom. The written statement must be submitted within ninety (90) days of the State Board's final order; and
 - All costs will be paid by Educator Coan.
- f. On August 8, 2017, Educator Coan was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail.
- g. On August 15, 2017, Educator Coan accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation, thereby waiving her right to any further notice, 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.

- 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 Coan for her violation of the Code of Ethics, and adopts the recommendation for actions as outlined by the Ethic's Subcommittee.
- b. Educator Coan 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.
- c. This order shall remain for two (2) years in Educator Coan's professional licensure file, but shall remain permanently in the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Dr. Jay Barth, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education