

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
JUNE 8, 2017**

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER  
IN RE STEPHANIE DEBORAH REYNOLDS, PLSB CASE NO. 17-068**

At its meeting on June 8, 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 Stephanie Deborah Reynolds (“Educator Reynolds”). Based upon the Ethics Subcommittee’s recommendation and 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. The Arkansas Department of Education issued Educator Reynolds a standard five year teaching license on January 1, 2016, valid until December 31, 2020.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Reynolds 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 October 7, 2016, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Reynolds violated Standards 1 and 2. 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 October 13, 2016, Educator Reynolds was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate the allegations.
- e. On April 7, 2017, after considering the investigator's report and evidence, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found reasonable belief that Educator Reynolds violated Standards 1 and 2 of the Code of Ethics when she:
  - Struck, wrestled, or inappropriately attempted to restrain a student.

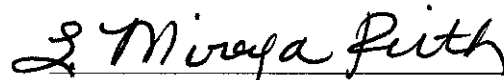
The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board order a one year probation of the license of Educator Reynolds; assess a fine of \$75.00; require training, specifically ArkansasIDEAS online portal course IAD14491 Classroom Management: Managing the Challenging Behavior (2 hours); and Educator Reynolds to submit to the PLSB office written reflections on this training in regards to the educator's learning and how it will impact the classroom. All training and written reflections to be completed within sixty (60) days of the State Board final order. All associated costs to be paid by Educator Reynolds.

- f. On April 11, 2017, Educator Reynolds was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail.
- g. On May 3, 2017, Educator Reynolds 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 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 Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation.
- b. Accordingly, the Board admonishes Educator Reynolds for her violations of the Code of Ethics; places her license on probation for one (1) year; assesses a fine of \$75.00; requires the timely completion of coursework to include ArkansasIDEAS online portal course IAD14491, Classroom Management: Managing the Challenging Behavior (2 hours) with written reflections on this training to be provided to the PLSB office within sixty (60) days of the date of this final order, payment of the fine to be made within ninety (90) days of the State Board final order.
- c. Educator Reynolds 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 Reynolds professional licensure file and in the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
Mireya Reith, Chair  
Arkansas State Board of Education