

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 11, 2017**

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER
RE: LESTER DWAYNE CURRY; REVOCATION OF LICENSE REQUEST**

At its meeting on May 11, 2017, the Arkansas State Board of Education (Board) heard The Department's request to revoke the teaching license of Lester Dwayne Curry based on his guilty plea to a disqualifying offense for teacher licensing under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-410. Based upon the testimony and 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 Department received information that Lester Dwayne Curry (Educator Curry) plead guilty to a disqualifying offense on March 6, 2017.
- b. Educator Curry was notified through his attorney that he had plead guilty to a disqualifying offense and had thirty (30) days to request a waiver hearing on the revocation of his license.
- c. There were communications with his attorney explaining the disqualification, however, Educator Curry did not request a hearing regarding the revocation of his license.
- d. The Board considered:
 - i. The educator's age at the time of the offense;
 - ii. The circumstances surrounding the offense;
 - iii. The length of time since the offense;
 - iv. The educator's subsequent work history;
 - v. The educator's employment and character references; and

- vi. Other evidence demonstrating that the applicant does not pose a threat to the health or safety of school children or school personnel.
- e. A motion was made to revoke Educator Curry's teaching license. The Board's vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

II. Conclusions of Law:

- a. The State Board of Education may consider a true report in the Child Maltreatment Central Registry or certain enumerated offenses as a disqualification for licensing. See Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-410(c), 6-17-410(d) (A) (5) and 6-17-411. This includes offenses which have been expunged, sealed, and pardoned by the governor.
- b. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting and pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-11-105, 6-17-410 and 25-15-201 et seq., the Arkansas State Board of Education GRANTS the Department's recommendation to revoke Educator Curry's teaching license.
- c. Lester Dwayne Curry's Arkansas teaching license is hereby permanently revoked.
- d. This Order shall become a permanent entry in the licensure file of the educator.

IT IS SO ORDERED.


Mireya Reith, Chair
State Board of Education