BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION JANUARY 14, 2016

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER IN RE LORNA GAIL KING, PLSB CASE NO. 15-182

At its regular meeting on January 14, 2016, 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 Lorna Gail King ("Educator King"). Based upon Educator King's consent to 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 King a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2013, valid until December 31, 2017.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator King 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 July 10, 2015, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into the allegation that Educator King violated Standard 2: An educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices.
- d. On July 21, 2015, Educator King was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.

- e. On November 4, 2015, after considering the investigator's report and evidence, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found reasonable belief that Educator King violated Standard 2 when she:
 - Placed the signatures and/or initials of other educators on Special Education documentation without their prior authorization.

The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board place Educator King's license on probation for three (3) years, assess a \$75.00 fine, and require that she complete training on special education paperwork, process, and procedures provided by the ADE Special Education Office. The training must be completed within one (1) year of the date of the Board's order, with all associated costs paid by Educator King.

- f. On November 5, 2015, Educator King was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail.
- g. On November 30, 2015, Educator King 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 King for her violation of the Code of Ethics, orders probation of her license for three (3) year, assesses a \$75.00 fine, and

requires that she complete training on special education paperwork, process, and

procedures provided by the ADE Special Education Office. The training must be

completed within one (1) year of the date of the Board's order, with all associated costs

paid by Educator King.

c. Educator King 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 King's professional licensure file and in

the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Mireya Reith, Vice Chair

Arkansas State Board of Education