

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SEPTEMBER 10, 2015**

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER
IN RE MARY FAITH McCORMICK; PLSB CASE NO. 15-020**

At its regular meeting on September 10, 2015, the Arkansas State Board of Education (“Board”) accepted the surrender and revocation of the license of Mary Faith McCormick (“Educator McCormick”). The Board finds that the voluntary surrender of Educator McCormick’s license should be acknowledged and her license should be permanently revoked 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:

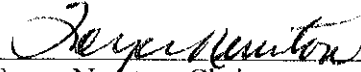
- a. The Arkansas Department of Education issued Mary Faith McCormick a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2012, valid until December 31, 2016.
- b. The Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Subcommittee (“Ethics Subcommittee”) received an allegation that Educator McCormick violated 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 September 5, 2014, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into the allegations that Educator McCormick violated Standard 1: An educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom.
- d. On September 15, 2014, Educator McCormick was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee’s authorization to investigate the allegation.
- e. On July 14, 2015, Educator McCormick pled guilty to first-degree sexual assault, a Class A felony.

- f. On August 3, 2015, Educator McCormick, through her attorney, voluntarily surrendered her license with the understanding that Arkansas law does not have a provision for the mere surrender of a license and, therefore, the surrender of a license will result in its permanent revocation.
- g. Educator McCormick has waived her right to any notice, hearing, and any other rights she might be entitled to under the Administrative Procedure Act including those set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 212.
- h. Educator McCormick's surrender is evidenced by the signed consent attached to this order.

II. Conclusion of Law:

- a. The Administrative Procedure Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-208 (b), provides for the resolution of this matter by consent order.
- b. The Board voted unanimously to accept the surrender of Educator McCormick's license.
- c. This order shall remain permanently in Educator McCormick's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Toyce Newton, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MARY FAITH (SEWELL) McCORMICK

CONSENT TO SURRENDER OF ARKANSAS TEACHING LICENSE

1. I, **Mary Faith (Sewell) McCormick**, surrender my Arkansas teaching license and any right to apply for renewal.
2. I acknowledge that the State Board of Education's acceptance of the surrender of my license will result in its permanent revocation because Arkansas law has no provision for the mere surrender of an educator's license.
3. I waive all rights I may have to any further notice, hearing, or appeal under the Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-101 et seq.
4. I am represented by legal counsel in this matter.


 Mary Faith (Sewell) McCormick

8/03/2015
 Date