

**THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:  
KELLY GEOFFRION  
MARCH 11, 2021**

**PLSB CASE NO. 20-119**

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER**

At its regular meeting on March 11, 2021, 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 Kelly Geoffrion (Educator Geoffrion). Based upon Educator Geoffrion's acceptance of 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 Geoffrion a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2018, valid until December 31, 2022.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Geoffrion violated the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-422 and 6-17-428.
- c. On March 6, 2020, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Geoffrion violated *Standard 1: an educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom;* *Standard 2: an educator maintains competence regarding his or her professional*

*practice, inclusive of professional and ethical behavior, skills, knowledge, dispositions, and responsibilities relating to his or her organizational position.*

- d. Educator Geoffrion was notified on March 10, 2020, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on October 5, 2020, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violation of Standards 1 and 2 in that Educator Geoffrion:
  - Engaged in inappropriate interactions with students
  - Exhibited an inappropriate disposition inclusive of professional and ethical behavior
  - Failed to follow district /state policies
- f. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:
  1. Suspension of license for 2 years;
  2. Assess a \$500 fine (due within 90 days of the State Board Order);
  3. Require Educator to complete the following coursework/readings:
    - a. ERC19048: Professional Licensure Standard Board (PLSB): The Code of Ethics Training Video (2018) Credit Hours: 1
    - b. SPB14011 Creating the Perfect Behavior Plan Credit Hours: 1
    - c. Title: The Complete Learning Disabilities Handbook: Ready-to-Use Strategies and Activities for Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities. Third Edition Author: Joan M. Harwell, Rebecca Williams Jackson ASIN: B00E6TH5ZY

- d. Title: Common-Sense Classroom Management for Special Education Teachers, Grades K-5 (144 pages) Author: Jill A. Lindberg ISBN-10: 1412915082 ISBN-13: 978-1412915083
- e. Require Educator to prepare written reflection on all trainings including ethics video to explain appropriate techniques she will utilize in her classroom going forward and how she will acknowledge techniques that will be traumatizing to a student. (due within 90 days of the State Board Order); and
- f. Require Educator to pay all associated costs.
- g. On October 5, 2020, Educator Geoffrion, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's initial determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail. Educator Geoffrion accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation thereby waiving her right to any further notice, hearing, or any other rights she may 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.

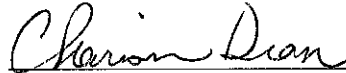
## **II. Conclusions of Law**

- 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 Geoffrion for her violation of the Code of Ethics.

- b. Educator Geoffrion is cautioned that her non-payment of the assessed fine of \$500 may result in the suspension of her license until the fine is paid in full.
- c. Educator Geoffrion 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 Geoffrion professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Charisse Dean, Chair  
Arkansas State Board of Education