

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
WHITNEY EVANS
JUNE 10, 2021**

PLSB CASE NO. 21-108

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on June 10, 2021, the Arkansas State Board of Education (Board) accepted the recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for disciplinary action against the teaching license of Whitney Evans (Educator Evans). Based upon Educator Evans's consent to surrender teaching license 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 Evans a five year teaching license valid until November 18, 2021.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Evans 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 May 7, 2021, the Ethics Subcommittee, authorized an investigation that Educator Evans 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 skills, knowledge, dispositions, and responsibilities relating to his or her organizational position by allowing inappropriate interactions with students. Standard 8: an educator, while on

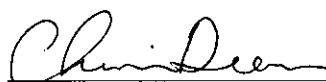
school premises or at school-sponsored activities involving students, refrains from using, possessing and/or being under the influence of alcohol or unauthorized drugs/substances, and/or possessing items prohibited by law, or possessing or using tobacco or tobacco-related products, e-cigarettes, e-liquid, or vapor products, or abusing, misusing prescription medications or other authorized substances as evidenced by impairment.

- d. In lieu of investigation, Educator Evans executed a consent to surrender teaching license for approval by the State Board of Education 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.
- e. At today's meeting, the consent to surrender 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 consent to surrender as a permanent revocation, and enacts the sanctions accordingly.
- b. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Evans's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Chair Person
Arkansas State Board of Education