

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:
DONALD JOSEPH EVELD, JR
APRIL 13, 2023

PLSB CASE NO. 23-063

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on April 13, 2023, 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 Donald Joseph Eveld, Jr. (“Educator Eveld”). Based upon Educator Eveld’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 Eveld a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2020 valid until December 31, 2024.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Eveld 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 December 2, 2022, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Eveld violated *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; Standard 3: an educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices;*

- d. Educator Eveld was notified on December 13, 2022, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on March 3, 2023, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violation of Standards 2 and 3 in that Educator Eveld:
- Exhibited inappropriate disposition inclusive of professional and ethical behavior.
 - Violated district, state or federal policies or law.
 - Failed to report.
- f. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:
1. Probation of license for 6 months.
 2. Assess a \$150 fine (due within 90 days of the State Board Order);
 3. Require Educator to complete the following coursework/readings:
 - a. Code of Ethics Training Provided by the PLSB (1.5 Hours);
 - b. ERB21002 Be the Reason: The Educator's Role in Combating Child Maltreatment (1 Hour); and
 - c. Mandated Reporter: Requirements in Arkansas (1.5 Credit Hours).
 4. Written reflection on each training indicating how it will affect the educator's practices in the future to be approved by the Ethics Subcommittee upon completion. (Due to the PLSB Ethics Subcommittee within 90 days of the State Board Order); and
 5. Require Educator to pay all associated costs.
- g. On March 6, 2023, Educator Eveld's attorney was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's initial determination and recommendation by secure server. Educator

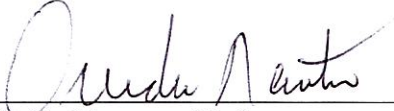
Eveld accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation thereby waiving his right to any further notice, hearing, or any other rights he may have under the Administrative Procedure Act, including those rights set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-211 and 25-15-212.

- 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 Eveld for his violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Eveld is cautioned that his non-payment of the assessed fine of \$150 will result in the continued suspension of his license until the fine is paid in full.
- c. Educator Eveld 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 his license.
- d. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Eveld's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Otida Newton, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education