

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
LEANN ALEXANDER
MAY 12, 2022**

PLSB CASE NO. 22-083

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on May 12, 2022, 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 LeAnn Alexander (Educator Alexander). Based upon Educator Alexander'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 Alexander a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2019, valid until December 31, 2023.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Alexander 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 January 14, 2022, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Alexander 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; Educator Alexander was notified on January 14, 2022, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.

d. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on April 1, 2022, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violation of Standard 2 in that Educator Alexander:

- Exhibited inappropriate disposition inclusive of professional and ethical behavior.
- Violated district, state or federal policies or law.

e. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:

1. Written Reprimand by State Board of Education.
2. Assess a \$100.00 fine (due within 90 days of the State Board Order).
3. Code of Ethics in person as provided by the PLSB staff with written reflections to be provided to the PLSB regarding how her interactions violated the code of ethics and how impactful that is in hiring.
4. Require Educator to pay all associated cost.

f. On April 1, 2022, Educator Alexander, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's initial determination and recommendation by secure server. Educator Alexander 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.

g. 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 Alexander for her violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Alexander is cautioned that her non-payment of the assessed fine of \$100 may result in the suspension of her license until the fine is paid in full.
- c. Educator Alexander 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 Alexander's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Ouida Newton, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education