

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
EDUCATOR ALEX BEALL
AUGUST 12, 2021**

PLSB CASE NO. 21-043

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on August 12, 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 Alex Beall (Educator Beall). Based upon Educator Beall failure to respond to 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 Beall a standard five-year teaching license on January 1 2019, valid until December 31, 2023.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Beall 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 4, 2020, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Beall 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 Beall was notified on December 4, 2020, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on February 5, 2021, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violation of Standards 1 and 2 in that Educator Beall:
 - Engaged in inappropriate contact with a student (physical)
 - Exhibited inappropriate disposition inclusive of professional and ethical behavior
 - Violated district, state or federal policies or law
- f. The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board take the following actions:
 1. Written Reprimand by State Board of Education;
 2. Assess a \$100 fine (due within 90 days of the State Board Order);
 3. Recommended training, coursework or rehab treatment, with monitored progress:
 - a) ERC20059: Professional Licensure Standards Board Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators: Ethical Scenarios in Education (2020) Credit Hours: 1
 - b) Title: Becoming an Emotionally Intelligent Teacher 1st Edition
Author: William Powell ISBN 10: 1620878798 ISBN 13: 978-1620878798


- c) Written reflections by the educator on each assigned training to explain how he will utilize the trainings with student interactions in the future.
- d) Require Educator to pay all associated cost.
- g. On February 5, 2021, Educator Beall, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's initial determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail. Educator Beall failed to respond to the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation thereby waiving her/his right to any further notice, hearing, or any other rights she/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 Beall for his violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Beall is cautioned that his non-payment of the assessed fine of \$100 will result in the continued suspension of her license until the fine is paid in full.

- c. Educator Beall 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 Beall'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