

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

IN RE THE MATTER OF:
STEVEN SHOOK
JUNE 13, 2024

PLSB CASE NO. 21-075

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on June 13, 2024, the Arkansas State Board of Education (“Board”) reviewed the findings of the Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Hearing Subcommittee (“Hearing Subcommittee”) for disciplinary action against the teaching license of Steven Shook (“Educator Shook”). Based upon the briefs of the parties and the evidence presented to the Board, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Ark. Code Ann. 25-15-101 et seq., the Board hereby states as follows:

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

- a. On March 26, 2024, Educator Shook and his attorney appeared for his evidentiary hearing before the Hearing Subcommittee.
- b. After a review of the evidence, the Hearing Subcommittee found, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that Educator Shook violated Standard 2 of the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators, and recommended Probation of License for 2 years, and pay a fine of \$150.00.
- c. Educator did not respond to the recommendation, thereby deeming it accepted.
- d. The case was placed on the May 9, 2024 State Board of Education consent agenda. The Board voted to moved the case to the June 13, 2024 State Board of Education action agenda for further review of the evidentiary hearing transcript prior to making a final decision regarding the case.

- e. On June 13, 2024, Educator Shook did not appear.
- f. The PLSB made an oral argument to the Board.
- g. 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 made the following findings, conclusions and determinations by a preponderance of the evidence.
- h. The Board found that Educator Shook:
The educator has two true findings by CACD (Crimes Against Children Division). Very high negative impact on young students (1st grade). Multiple students reported inappropriate sexual touching by the educator.
- i. Educator Shook violated Standard 1 and Standard 2.
- j. The Board imposed the following sanction:
- Permanent Revocation of License; and
 - Assess a \$500 fine (due within 90 days of State Board Order)
- k. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Shook's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Dr. Sarah Moore, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education