

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
CASEY ALAN BUCK
NOVEMBER 10, 2022**

PLSB CASE NO. 23-006

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on November 10, 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 Casey Alan Buck (Educator Buck). Based upon Educator Buck'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 Buck a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2022, valid until December 31, 2026.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Buck 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 July 8, 2022, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Buck 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;*

- d. Educator Buck was notified on July 11, 2022, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.
- e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on October 7, 2022, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violation of Standard 2 in that Educator Buck:
- 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. 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. Title: The 85% Solution: How Personal Accountability Guarantees Success -- No Nonsense, No Excuses (256p) Author: Linda Galindo
ISBN 10: ISBN 13: 9780470500163
 - b. Title: QBQ! The Question Behind the Question: Practicing Personal Accountability at Work and in Life (160p) Author: John G. Miller
ISBN 10: 0399152334 ISBN 13: 978-0399152337
 4. Educator to provide written reflections of each training to the PLSB Subcommittee stating how it will influence his decision making for the safety of all students. To be completed within 90 days of the state board order.
 5. Require Educator to pay all associated costs.
- g. On October 7, 2022, Educator Buck was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's initial determination and recommendation by secure server. Educator Buck 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 Buck for his violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b. Educator Buck is cautioned that his non-payment of the assessed fine of \$150 will result in the suspension of his license until the fine is paid in full.
- c. Educator Buck 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 Buck'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