

THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**IN RE THE MATTER OF:
GRANT B COLLINS
APRIL 11, 2024**

PLSB CASE NO. 24-096

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its regular meeting on April 11, 2024, 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 Grant B. Collins (“Educator Collins”). Based upon Educator Collins’ 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:

1) Findings of Fact

- a) The Arkansas Department of Education issued Educator Collins a standard five-year teaching license on December 8, 2020, valid until December 31, 2024.
- b) The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Collins 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 November 13, 2023, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Educator Collins 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 Collins was notified on November 15, 2023, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to investigate this allegation.

e) After considering the investigator's report and evidence on March 1, 2024, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that a preponderance of evidence existed to substantiate violation of Standards 1 and 2 in that Educator Collins:

- Inappropriate interaction with student(s).
- Inappropriate communication with student(s).
- Exhibited an 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 1 year.

(2) Assess a \$200.00 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: Flipping the Switch: Unleash the Power of Personal Accountability

Using the QBQ! (144 p) Author: John G. Miller ISBN 10: 0399152334

ISBN 13: 978-0399152337

(c) Title: Addressing Appropriate and Inappropriate Teacher-Student

Relationships: A Secondary Education Professional Development Model

Author: Ernest J. Zarra, III, Kern High School District Publication:

CLEARvoz Journal Vol. 3, No. 2 (2016) Link:

<http://journals.sfu.ca/cvj/index.php/cvj/article/viewFile/26/29>

(d) Title: Real Talk About Classroom Management: 50 Best Practices That Work and Show You Believe in Your Students (296p) Author: Serena Pariser ISBN-13: 978-1544317755 ISBN-10: 1544317751

(e) Code of Ethics Training Provided by the PLSB (1.5 Hours)

(4) Educator to provide written reflection on each book/training on how they will impact the educator's future interactions and communications with students.

Due to the PLSB for approval within 90 days of the State Board Order;

(5) Quarterly reports from supervisor on how the educator is progressing in his classroom management and relationships with students; and

(6) Require Educator to pay all associated costs.

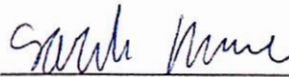
g) On March 1, 2024, Educator Collins, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's initial determination and recommendation by secure email. Educator Collins failed to respond to the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendation thereby waiving his right to any further notice, hearing, or any other rights he may 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.

2) 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 Grant B. Collins for his violation of the Code of Ethics.
- b) Educator Collins is cautioned that his non-payment of the assessed fine of \$200.00 may result in the suspension of his license until the fine is paid in full.
- c) Educator Collins 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 Collins' 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