

# ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MARCH 12, 2026

2:00 P.M.

## A P P E A R A N C E S

### BOARD MEMBERS:

MS. ADRIENNE WOODS, Chair  
MS. LISA HUNTER, Vice Chair  
MR. KEN BRAGG  
MR. RANDY HENDERSON  
DR. GARY ARNOLD  
DR. AARON ABBOTT

### NON-VOTING BOARD MEMBERS:

MR. JACOB OLIVA, Secretary of Education  
MS. JEANIE WILCOXIN, ATOY

### ALSO APPEARING:

MR. DANIEL SHULTS, Chief Legal Counsel I

### LOCATION:

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
- Auditorium/Zoom  
#4 Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, Arkansas

**I N D E X**

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ACTION AGENDA . . . . . 3

1. Reconsideration of the Existing APA Record in the  
Professional Licensure Standards Board Case 25-121  
- Danny R. Marrs, Jr. . . . . 3

Court Reporter's Certificate . . . . . 14



1 different adjudicators or reconsideration of the  
2 matter. The final decision shall be solely at the  
3 discretion of the State Board of Education in its  
4 best judgment. Based on the court's instructions,  
5 limiting the Board's authority to "reconsidering the  
6 existing record," the Board is not to allow  
7 additional testimony or argument. The Board must  
8 hear any preliminary motions, make disclosures  
9 required under the order and then move straight into  
10 the deliberation based on the members prior review of  
11 the record.

12 Following the Board's deliberations, the Board  
13 will vote to resolve the matter. I recommend roll  
14 call votes for these. Three decisions are to be  
15 made. This is the standard stuff. The initial  
16 question is whether the Code of Ethics was violated,  
17 and if so, what provision of the Code of Ethics were  
18 violated? Second question, if that one is answered  
19 in the affirmative, if a violation is found, the  
20 second question is for the Board's the sanction --  
21 what sanction should be opposed. And if you find a  
22 violation of those sanctions, the third question is  
23 what is that rationale?

24 If there's no questions of me, I'll turn the  
25 matter over to Chair Woods for your proceedings.

1 CHAIR WOODS: Thank you.

2 Okay, Board, this will be very similar to our  
3 hearings in that we have three motions that we have  
4 to find. The first would be whether we have a  
5 violation of the standard of ethics. If we do, we  
6 have to impose a sanction, and then we also have to  
7 provide a rationale for our decision. So trusting  
8 that everybody has reviewed the record, is there any  
9 discussion to be had? And I will open the floor.

10 (NO RESPONSE)

11 CHAIR WOODS: No?

12 All right. I can entertain a motion if anybody  
13 has that? I'm also happy to review the findings of  
14 facts and conclusions for the record for -- if that  
15 -- if anybody would like to hear that as well?

16 DR. ARNOLD: I don't think I heard what you  
17 said.

18 CHAIR WOODS: I am happy to review the findings  
19 of facts and conclusions of law from the initial  
20 hearing if that would be helpful. I'm also happy to  
21 entertain a new motion if everybody's ready to  
22 proceed.

23 VICE CHAIR HUNTR: Could you review --

24 CHAIR WOODS: Yes.

25 VICE CHAIR HUNTER: -- the findings of fact,

1           please?

2                   CHAIR WOODS: So on December the 6th, 2024, the  
3           Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into  
4           the allegations that Educator Marrs violated Standard  
5           1, which was that an educator should maintain a  
6           professional relationship with each student, both  
7           inside and outside of the classroom; that he violated  
8           Standard 2, that he should -- an educator should  
9           maintain competence regarding his or her professional  
10          practice, inclusive of professional and ethical  
11          behavior, skills, knowledge, dispositions and  
12          responsibilities relating to his or her  
13          organizational position; and violated Standard 3,  
14          that an educator honestly fulfills reporting  
15          obligations associated with his professional  
16          practice; and Standard 7, an educator maintains the  
17          confidentiality of information about students and  
18          colleagues obtained during the course of the  
19          educator's professional services that is protected  
20          under state law or regulations, federal law or  
21          regulations of written policies of the educator's  
22          school district.

23                   Educator Marrs was notified on December the 9th,  
24           2024, of the Ethics Subcommittee's authorization to  
25           investigate this allegation. After considering the

1           investigator's report on -- and evidence on March the  
2           6th, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found that  
3           by a ponderance of the evidence existed to  
4           substantiate violations of one, two and three against  
5           educator Marrs. He lacked supervision, exhibited  
6           inappropriate disposition, inclusive of professional  
7           and ethical behavior. He violated district, state or  
8           federal policies, and also failed to report. The  
9           Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board  
10          take the following actions, which was probation of  
11          license for two years, a \$250 fine and required the  
12          educator to complete the following coursework. It's  
13          outlined there.

14                 This was given to the State Board on April the  
15          10th, 2025. We voted to move it to the next  
16          available action agenda, and that occurred on June  
17          the 12th of 2025. The educator and his attorney  
18          appeared at the State Board meeting. We heard oral  
19          arguments, and based upon that, the Board found that  
20          he had violated Standards 1, 2 and 3. And we found  
21          the following rationale: that he lacked supervision,  
22          exhibited inappropriate disposition inclusive of  
23          professional and ethical behavior, failed to follow  
24          his district's policy and failed to report. We also  
25          found that the educator had 14 years of experience,

1 and he lacked mitigating factors, and there were  
2 several aggravating factors. And so we imposed the  
3 following sanction: that we suspended the license  
4 for one year, followed by probation of the license  
5 for two years. And we required the educator to  
6 complete the following coursework: written  
7 reflections of each book and training on how they  
8 will impact the educator's professional practices in  
9 the future. And then due to the PLSB's approval  
10 within 30 days prior to the end of the suspension for  
11 suspension removal. Also quarterly reports were due.

12 So at this time -- please, Dr. Arnold.

13 DR. ARNOLD: Any order of discussion from the  
14 Board? I don't have a question. I was going to make  
15 a motion.

16 CHAIR WOODS: Okay.

17 DR. ARNOLD: I would move that there is a  
18 preponderance of the evidence that the educator  
19 violated Standards 1, 2 and 3 of the Arkansas Code of  
20 Ethics.

21 CHAIR WOODS: Okay.

22 VICE CHAIR HUNTER: Second.

23 CHAIR WOODS: I have a motion by Dr. Arnold. I  
24 have a second by Ms. Hunter. We'll do a roll call  
25 vote.

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Mr. Bragg?

MR. BRAGG: Yes.

CHAIR WOODS: Mr. Henderson?

MR. HENDERSON: Yes.

CHAIR WOODS: Ms. Hunter?

VICE CHAIR HUNTER: Yes.

CHAIR WOODS: Dr. Arnold?

DR. ARNOLD: Yes.

CHAIR WOODS: Dr. Abbott?

DR. ABBOTT: Yes.

CHAIR WOODS: Okay. Moving on to sanctions.

The motion passes.

We find that educator Marrs violated the Code of Ethics. As to the sanction, what is appropriate?

VICE CHAIR HUNTER: So I make a motion that we uphold the recommended sanction.

CHAIR WOODS: Okay. So just to repeat. We are asking for the suspension of a license for one year followed by probation for two years, require the educator to complete the following coursework -- and I'm just going to go ahead and read it. *The 85% Solution: How Personal Accountability Guarantees Success*, and the Code of Ethics for Professional Responsibilities, and mandated reporter requirements in Arkansas; we're asking for written reflections on

1 each book and quarterly reports from the educator's  
2 supervisor; and that he is also to pay all associated  
3 costs.

4 Is that correct?

5 VICE CHAIR HUNTER: Correct.

6 CHAIR WOODS: Okay. And I have a motion by Ms.  
7 Hunter for that sanction. Do I have a second?

8 MR. HENDERSON: Second the motion.

9 CHAIR WOODS: Second by Mr. Henderson. We'll do  
10 another roll call vote.

11 Dr. Abbott?

12 DR. ABBOTT: Yes.

13 CHAIR WOODS: Dr. Arnold?

14 DR. ARNOLD: Yes.

15 CHAIR WOODS: Ms. Hunter?

16 VICE CHAIR HUNTER: Yes.

17 CHAIR WOODS: Mr. Henderson?

18 MR. HENDERSON: Yes.

19 CHAIR WOODS: Mr. Bragg?

20 MR. BRAGG: No.

21 CHAIR WOODS: Okay. With four yeses and one no,  
22 the motion on the sanctions pass.

23 And we have to provide a rationale for our  
24 decision. Do you want to adopt the previous  
25 rationale, or do we want to come up with a new

1           rationale?

2           VICE CHAIR HUNTER: So I move that we accept the  
3           rationale as previously --

4           CHAIR WOODS: Previously stated?

5           VICE CHAIR HUNTER: Uh-huh.

6           CHAIR WOODS: If everybody would look -- if you  
7           have your record pulled up, it's on page three and  
8           four what the rationale was, and it's lengthy. So  
9           right now I have a motion on the floor by Ms. Hunter  
10          to accept the rationale, the previously stated  
11          rationale. And we'll need a second for it to  
12          continue.

13          DR. ABBOTT: Second.

14          CHAIR WOODS: Seconded by Dr. Abbott. And we'll  
15          go ahead and take a roll call. All right. So the  
16          motion to adopt the previously adopted rationale.

17          Ms. Hunter?

18          VICE CHAIR HUNTER: Yes.

19          CHAIR WOODS: Dr. Arnold?

20          DR. ARNOLD: Yes.

21          CHAIR WOODS: Dr. Abbott?

22          DR. ABBOTT: Yes.

23          CHAIR WOODS: Mr. Henderson?

24          MR. HENDERSON: Yes.

25          CHAIR WOODS: Mr. Bragg?

1 MR. BRAGG: Yes.

2 CHAIR WOODS: All right. With five yeses and  
3 zero no's, the rationale has been adopted.

4 Mr. Shults, is there anything else? Otherwise,  
5 I'm going to make a statement before we move on.

6 MR. SHULTS: Not for me, no.

7 CHAIR WOODS: No?

8 I just wanted to make clear for the record that  
9 this was escalated to us after a court of law weighed  
10 in on the matter. The outcome of that proceeding  
11 directed that this matter had to return to the Board  
12 with certain people not participating. And I just  
13 wanted to make clear that we respected the court's  
14 directive and have followed it so that today's  
15 proceeding is without procedural question. But I  
16 also think that it's important for the record to  
17 reflect that the members who are not participating  
18 have served this Board with integrity and with a  
19 sincere commitment to the students in the State of  
20 Arkansas, even amidst personal attacks on their  
21 character and profession. So whether we're all  
22 present or not, I just want to make it clear that we  
23 unequivocally remain committed to ensuring that all  
24 matters before us are completed with procedural  
25 fairness. We take very seriously our ethical

1 obligations and the duty to uphold the standards of  
2 the teaching profession. And so our focus today, and  
3 as always, is to review the evidence, apply the law  
4 and hold those who violate our shared commitments  
5 accountable. And I hope that the best decision was  
6 made today to serve the students of Arkansas. Thank  
7 you.

8 Okay. Then we will adjourn the hearing.

9 (The action agenda concluded at 2:12 p.m.)  
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