

**Professional Licensure Standards Board
Friday, September 5, 2025
PLSB Full Board Minutes**

The Professional Licensure Standards Board held its quarterly meeting via Zoom and in person for those who could attend on **September 5, 2025**. Members of the Board present were: Hosea Born, Dr. Tiffany Bone, Dr. Kimberley Davis, Dr. Charlotte White-Wright, Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Dr. Karen Lasker, Wendy Peer, Melissa Speers, Kamicka Thompson, Dr. Phong Tran, Dudley Webb III, Dr. Brandie Benton, and Dr. Matthew Sutherlin.

ADE staff members present: Whitney James, Laura Shelton, Sarah Banker, and Sydney Austin.

Members not present: Dr. Alicia Shaw and Dr. Luke Lovins.

1. Call to Order – Dr. Harold Jeffcoat – Chair

Dr. Harold Jeffcoat called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Dudley Webb III made a motion to approve June 6, 2025, PLSB Full Board minutes; seconded by Dr. Kimberley Davis. None opposed. Motion passed.

3. Welcome to Dr. Brandie Benton, Assistant Commissioner, Educator Effectiveness and Licensure.

Presenter: Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Director of Educator Preparation and Licensure

Dr. Matthew Sutherlin welcomed Dr. Brandie Benton to the PLSB whose career in education involved serving as the Coordinator of Accreditation and Federal Programs at Henderson’s Teachers’ College, the Associate Provost for Enrollment Services and Admission at Henerson State University, and the superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction at Virtual Arkansas.

4. Recognition of Chief Investigator, Sarah Banker

Presenter: Whitney James, PLSB Managing Attorney

Whitney James recognized PLSB Chief Investigator, Sarah Banker, for her work and dedication to the PLSB over the last 9 years.

5. Legal and Ethics Subcommittee Updates.

**Presenter: Whitney James, PLSB Managing Attorney;
Laura Shelton, PLSB Chief Investigator**

Whitney James offered the board an update regarding the changes to Ark. Code Ann §§ 6-17-428 and 6-17-422, and Laura Shelton presented an updated list of recommended training for educators.

6. Action Items

a. **Ethics Subcommittee – Proposed New Members**

Presenter: Whitney James, PLSB Managing Attorney

Whitney James asked the board to approve Dr. Phong Tran to serve as a member on the Ethics Subcommittee.

Dudley Webb III made a motion to approve Dr. Phong Tran to serve as a member of the Ethics Subcommittee; Wendy Peer seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion passed

The meeting was adjourned. The next PLSB Full Board meeting will be on Friday, December 5, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.