

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 9, 2015**

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER
IN RE JUNEMARIE SHUFF THOMPSON, PLSB CASE NO. 15-017B**

At its regular meeting on April 9, 2015, the Arkansas State Board of Education (State Board) accepted the recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Subcommittee for disciplinary action against the teaching license of JuneMarie Shuff Thompson. Based upon Ms. Thompson's consent to the subcommittee's recommendation and the evidence presented, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Ark. Code Ann. 25-15-101 et seq., the State Board hereby states as follows:

I. Findings of Fact:

- a. The Arkansas Department of Education issued JuneMarie Shuff Thompson a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2011, valid until December 31, 2015.
- b. The Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Ms. Thompson 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. The subcommittee authorized an investigation into allegations that Ms. Thompson violated Standards 2 and 3: 2) An educator maintains competence regarding skills, knowledge, and dispositions relating to his/her organizational position, subject matter, and/or pedagogical practice; and 3) An educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices.
- d. Ms. Thompson was notified on September 15, 2014, of the subcommittee's authorization on September 5, 2014, to investigate this allegation.

e. After considering the investigator's report and evidence on January 9, 2015, the subcommittee unanimously found that reasonable belief existed to substantiate a violation of Standards 2 and 3 as follows:

2. An educator maintains competence regarding skills, knowledge, and dispositions relating to his/her organizational position, subject matter, and/or pedagogical practice.
 - Educator failed to provide appropriate instructions to her classroom; and
 - Educator failed to provide appropriate classroom management by not stopping the verbal and physical abuse of a student by another educator.
3. An educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices.
 - Failed to report physical and verbal abuse of a student.

The subcommittee recommended that the State Board place Ms. Thompson's license on suspension for two (2) years and assess a fine of \$100.

- f. Ms. Thompson, through her attorney, was notified of the subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation on January 13, 2015, by certified and regular mail.
- g. Ms. Thompson accepted the subcommittee's recommendation on February 12, 2015, thereby waiving her right to any further notice or hearing or any other rights she might 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 subcommittee's recommendation and supporting documentation were presented to the State Board as part of its consent agenda.

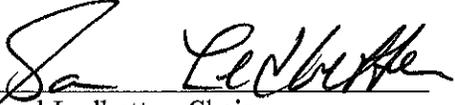
II. Conclusions of Law:

- a. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting and pursuant to 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 State Board adopts the recommendations of the subcommittee.

- b. Accordingly, the State Board orders suspension of JuneMarie Shuff Thompson's license for two (2) years, and assesses a fine of \$100.
- c. Ms. Thompson 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 her license.
- d. This order shall remain permanently in Ms. Thompson's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Samuel Ledbetter, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education