

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
APRIL 14, 2016**

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER  
IN RE JANICE MARIE SHUMPERT, PLSB CASE NO. 16-012**

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At its regular meeting on April 14, 2016, 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 Janice Marie Shumpert (“Educator Shumpert”). Based upon Educator Shumpert’s acceptance of 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:

**I. Findings of Fact:**

- a. The Arkansas Department of Education issued Educator Shumpert a standard five-year teaching license on January 1, 2013, valid until December 31, 2017.
- b. The Ethics Subcommittee received an allegation that Educator Shumpert violated the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators (“Code of Ethics”) promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-422 and 6-17-428.
- c. On September 4, 2015, the Ethics Subcommittee authorized an investigation into the allegation that Educator Shumpert violated Standard 1: An educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom.
- d. On September 14, 2015, Educator Shumpert was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee’s authorization to investigate the allegation.

e. On February 5, 2016, after considering the investigator's report and evidence, the Ethics Subcommittee unanimously found reasonable belief that Educator Shumpert violated Standard 1 of the Code of Ethics by:

- Hitting, striking, popping, or otherwise having inappropriate physical contact with one or more student(s).

The Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the Board suspend Educator Shumpert's license for three (3) years, assess a fine of \$100.00, and require that she complete six (6) hours of professional development training in classroom discipline, six (6) hours of professional development training in classroom management; and provide a written reflection to the PLSB concerning how the trainings will impact her actions in the classroom. The trainings must be completed by the end of the suspension period. All associated costs paid by Educator Shumpert.

- f. On February 10, 2016, Educator Shumpert, through her attorney, was notified of the Ethics Subcommittee's reasonable belief determination and recommendation by certified and regular mail.
- g. On February 25, 2016, Educator Shumpert, through her attorney, accepted the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendations, thereby waiving her right to any notice, hearing, and any other rights she might be entitled to under the Administrative Procedure Act including those set forth in Ark. Code Ann. §§ 36-15-211 and 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.

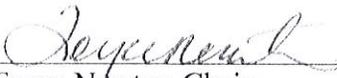
## **II. Conclusions of Law:**

- a. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting 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 Code of Ethics, the Board adopts the of the Ethics Subcommittee's recommendations.

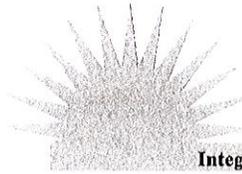
- b. Accordingly, the Board admonishes Educator Shumpert for her violation of the Code of Ethics, orders the suspension of Educator Shumpert's license for three (3) years, assesses a fine of \$100.00, and requires that she complete six (6) hours of professional development training in classroom discipline, six (6) hours of professional development training in classroom management; and provide a written reflection to the PLSB concerning how the trainings will impact her actions in the classroom. The trainings must be completed by the end of the suspension period. All associated costs paid by Educator Shumpert.
- c. Educator Shumpert is cautioned that her non-payment of the assessed fine of \$100.00 will result in the continued suspension of her license until the fine is paid in full.
- d. Educator Shumpert is cautioned that further violations of the Code of Ethics or failure to pay the fine within ninety (90) days may result in more severe discipline, including permanent revocation of her license.
- d. This order shall remain permanently in Educator Shumpert's professional licensure file and the confidential files of the Professional Licensure Standards Board.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
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Toyce Newton, Chair  
Arkansas State Board of Education



ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION



*Arkansas Professional  
Licensure Standards Board*

Integrity ■ Knowledge ■ Professionalism

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYMENT OF FINES  
IN CONNECTION WITH  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD CASE  
FINAL ORDERS

1. If the board's order assesses a fine, payment can be made by **Cashier's check or money order**. Payment must be made within ninety (90) days of the meeting date noted in the first paragraph of the order. No personal checks, debit card, credit card, or cash will be accepted.
2. The cashier's check or money order should be made payable to:

**Arkansas Department of Education**

and mailed to the following address:

**Arkansas Department of Education  
ATTN: PLSB Collections  
Four Capitol Mall, Box 30  
Little Rock, AR 72201**

3. If you have any questions, please contact:  
Jean Robertson at (501) 683-3363; [Jean.Robertson@arkansas.gov](mailto:Jean.Robertson@arkansas.gov);  
Jennifer Liwo at (501) 682-0166; [Jennifer.Liwo@arkansas.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Liwo@arkansas.gov); or  
Cheryl Reinhart at (501) 682-9983; [Cheryl.Reinhart@arkansas.gov](mailto:Cheryl.Reinhart@arkansas.gov).

*Arkansas Department of Education, Professional Licensure Standards Board  
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(501) 371-8014 voice; (501) 682-3781 fax*

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