

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 12, 2015

RE: DANNA M. STROZYK; LICENSURE WAIVER REQUEST

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

At its meeting on November 12, 2015, the Arkansas State Board of Education (“Board”) considered Danna M. Strozyk’s (“Educator Strozyk”) disqualification from licensure under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-410. Based upon the testimony and evidence presented, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-101 et seq., the Board hereby states as follows:

1. Findings of Fact:
 - a. Educator Strozyk held a standard teaching license which expired on December 31, 2015.
 - b. Educator Strozyk applied for the renewal of her license.
 - c. On August 26, 2015, the Department notified Educator Strozyk of her disqualification from licensure and employment in an Arkansas public school.
 - d. On September 9, 2015, Educator Strozyk requested a waiver from the Board.
 - e. On October 21, 2015, Educator Strozyk declined a waiver hearing.
 - f. On November 12, 2015, Educator Strozyk did not appear before the State Board.
 - g. At the waiver hearing, the Board considered:
 - i. The educator’s age at the time of the offense;
 - ii. The circumstances surrounding the offense;
 - iii. The length of time since the offense;
 - iv. The educator’s subsequent work history;
 - v. The educator’s employment and character references; and

- vi. Other evidence demonstrating that the applicant does not pose a threat to the health or safety of school children or school personnel.
 - h. A motion was made to deny waiving Educator Strozyk's disqualification, thereby prohibiting the Department from issuing a license to Educator Strozyk, and precluding her employment in a public school.
 - i. The Board's vote to deny waiving Educator Strozyk's disqualification was unanimous. The motion carried.
2. Conclusions of Law:
- a. The State Board of Education may consider certain enumerated offenses as a disqualification for licensing. *See* Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-410(c), 6-17-410(d)(A)(5), and 6-17-411. This includes offenses which have been expunged, sealed, and pardoned by the governor.
 - b. Upon consideration of the evidence presented at the meeting and pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-11-105, 6-17-410 and 25-15-201 et seq., the Arkansas State Board of Education does not waive Educator Strozyk's disqualification for the purposes of licensure and employment eligibility. Educator Strozyk is disqualified from licensure and employment in a public school.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Toyce Newton, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education