
Anna Pittman
Revocation, Automatic, Permanent

The Background:

Prior History: N/A

Facts: Ms. Pittman was suspended by Morgan County School District on November 13, 2020, when she allegedly struck a 2nd grade non-verbal student and slung special needs students into their seats. Due to the nature of the misconduct, Tenn. Code Ann. (“T.C.A.”) § 49-5-417(a)(2), § 49-5-413(e), and Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(4)(a)(2) requires the automatic permanent revocation of Ms. Pittman’s license.

Applicable Rule

/Law: T.C.A. § 49-5-417(a)(2), § 49-5-413(e), and Board rule 0520-02-03-.09(4)(a) specify conduct that requires the State Board of Education to automatically and permanently revoke an educator’s license.

0520-02-03-.09(1)(f) defines inappropriate physical contact as unlawful and/or unjustified physical contact with a student. Examples of such inappropriate physical contact include, but are not limited to, sexual contact, physical altercations, horseplay, tickling, improper use of corporal punishment, and rough housing.

0520-02-03-.09(1)(k) defines other good cause as conduct that calls into question the fitness of an educator to hold a license including, but not limited to, violation of any provision in the Teacher Code of Ethics as contained in T.C.A. §§ 49-5-1001, et seq.

0520-02-03-.09(1)(l) defines permanent revocation as the nullification of an educator’s license without eligibility for future reinstatement.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(e) provides the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator’s license for inappropriate physical contact.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(i) provides the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator’s license for other good cause as defined in subparagraph (1)(k) of the rule.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(j) provides the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator’s license for any offense contained in paragraphs (4) and/or (5) of the rule.

0520-02-03-.09(5)(a)(6)(ii) provides an individual holding an educator's license who is found to have engaged in inappropriate physical contact with a student that results in harm or potential harm to the student shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a suspension for not less than two (2) years up to and including permanent revocation.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to **automatically, permanently revoke** her educator license based upon these findings. Respondent received said notice.

Board Action Consistency Considerations:

February 2021 – The Board voted to approve the automatic, permanent revocation of an educator's license for conduct specified in T.C.A. § 49-5-417(a)(2) and Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(4)(a)(2).

May 2021 – The Board voted to approve the automatic, permanent revocation of an educator's license for conduct specified in T.C.A. § 49-5-417(a)(2) and Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(4)(a)(2).

The Recommendation:

The Board staff recommends the automatic, permanent revocation of Respondent's Tennessee educator license.