

BEFORE THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of
the Professional License
of Eden N. Bloom

14-PPC-31
14ED0003

FINAL ORDER

NOW, on this January 14, 2015, the above-captioned matter comes on for consideration by the Kansas State Board of Education (Board) upon the complaint filed against the professional license of Eden N. Bloom.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Eden N. Bloom was licensed by the Kansas State Board of Education from 1992 to 2013. She currently has an outstanding application to renew her professional license.
2. Ms. Bloom engaged in misconduct on or about May 15th, 2013 by possessing a Schedule II controlled substance known as methamphetamine. Methamphetamine, an illegal substance, was found inside Ms. Bloom's purse while it was locked inside a filing cabinet inside of a classroom at Newton High School. Ms. Bloom taught at Newton High School at the time of the misconduct.
3. Ms. Bloom engaged in misconduct on or about May 15th, 2013 when she returned to Newton High School and refused to leave after being told the previous afternoon that she was to leave school grounds and not return. On May 15th, 2013, Ms. Bloom was asked by a Newton Police Officer to leave and had to be forcibly removed.
4. Ms. Bloom engaged in misconduct on or about May 15, 2013 by possessing drug paraphernalia, to wit: a small glass pipe and/or straw used to store, contain, conceal, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce a controlled substance into the human body.
5. The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) filed a Complaint pursuant to K.A.R. 91-22-5a on Sept. 9th, 2014. That same complaint was mailed by certified mail to the last known address of Ms. Bloom on Sept. 10, 2014.
6. The Licensee received the Complaint, but she did not request a hearing.
7. The Complaint specifically advises the Licensee that "If no answer is filed within 20 days, Applicant will be deemed to have admitted the allegations contained in the complaint and acquiesced in the proposed action. An Initial Order will be entered recommending the revocation of your teaching license and all endorsements for the reasons stated in the Complaint and that notice of the revocation will be provided to all education agencies in the State of Kansas and to the agency responsible for issuing educator licenses/certificates in each of the other states." The Board finds Ms. Bloom submitted an Answer by way of the letter sent to Dr. Scott Myers at KSDE. Ms. Bloom's

Answer does not specifically deny any allegations contained in the Complaint. Ms. Bloom did not deny that she possessed methamphetamine or that she had to be forcibly removed from Newton High School.

8. Ms. Bloom's letter / answer was reviewed taken into consideration by the Professional Practices Commission. The Board reviewed the Complaint, Ms. Bloom's answer, Ms. Bloom's letter written directly to the Board dated December 12, 2014 (letter #2), and KSDE's Response to letter #2 as well as all exhibits attached to KSDE's Response. The Board considers letter #2 to be Ms. Bloom's written brief as to why the recommendations of the Commission should not be accepted.

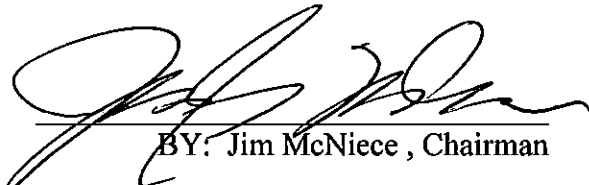
CONCLUSIONS

1. Any license issued by the State Board may be suspended or revoked, or the license holder may be publicly censured by the State Board for misconduct or other just cause; including the commission of any crime punishable as a felony. K.A.R. 91-22-1a.
2. Pursuant to K.S.A. 72-8501, the Legislature has declared teaching and school administration to be professions in Kansas with all the similar rights, responsibilities and privileges accorded other legally recognized professions. An educator is in a position of public trust.
3. Ms. Bloom's conduct is inconsistent with the commonly-held perceptions and expectations of a member of the teaching profession. Such conduct violates the public trust and confidence placed in members of the profession.
4. Ms. Bloom's conduct demonstrates a lack of fitness to perform the duties and responsibilities of a member of the teaching and school administration professions and is sufficient and just cause for denying Applicant's license.

Having regard for the nature and seriousness of Ms. Bloom's misconduct, the Kansas State Board of Education hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Professional Practices Commission and revokes the professional teaching license of Eden Bloom effective immediately.

This Final Order is made and entered this 14th day of January, 2015

Kansas State Board of Education



BY: Jim McNiece, Chairman

NOTICE TO APPLICANT:

You may request a reconsideration of the above Order. To do so, you must file a Petition for Reconsideration with the Secretary to the State Board of Education, at the address stated below, within 15 days after service of this Final Order. The Petition must state the specific grounds upon which relief is requested.

The filing of a Petition for Reconsideration is not a prerequisite for seeking judicial review.

Peggy Hill
Secretary, KSBE
Landon State Office Building
900 SW Jackson Ave. Suite 600N
Topeka, KS 66612

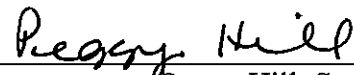
Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on this 15th day of January, 2015, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Final Order was deposited in the U.S. Mail, postage paid, addressed to:

Eden N. Bloom
504 N. Topeka
El Dorado, KS 67042

And via interoffice mail to:

R. Scott Gordon
General Counsel, KSDE
Landon State Office Building
900 SW Jackson Ave., Suite 102
Topeka, KS 66612



Peggy Hill, Secretary
Kansas State Board of Education