

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of Settlement Agreement Case No. C-2011-104, Lindsay D. Ireland

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**SUBMITTED BY:** Charles Easaw, Chief Investigator, Investigative Unit, State Board of Education

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**MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW:** August 8, 2013

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### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Lindsay D. Ireland holds a Provisional Career and Technical Education (Business and Marketing) certificate valid November 4, 2010 through November 4, 2013 and a Standard Secondary Education (7-12) certificate valid March 12, 2009 through February 2, 2015.

On October 5, 2011, Tucson Unified School District (“District”) notified the Investigative Unit of the State Board of Education (“Board”) of an allegation that Ms. Ireland reported to work while under the influence of drugs. Lab results revealed the presence of marijuana, cocaine, benzodiazepines, and alprazolam<sup>1</sup> in her system.

On January 3, 2013, the Investigative Unit notified Ms. Ireland of the intent of the State Board of Education to file a complaint seeking disciplinary action against her teaching certificates. After discussing the matter with Ms. Ireland, a settlement agreement was proposed.

The Professional Practices Advisory Committee (“PPAC”) reviewed the settlement agreement on May 14, 2013. The terms of the settlement agreement include the following:

- A suspension of certification through September 30, 2014.
- Successful completion of counseling, therapy, or a treatment program which addresses substance abuse issues.

The PPAC voted 5 to 0 to approve the settlement agreement for suspension with conditions against any and all teaching certificates held by Ms. Ireland and that it be maintained as part of her permanent record.

On June 24, 2013, the State Board considered a motion to adopt the PPAC’s findings of facts, conclusions of law, and recommendation to issue a suspension, with conditions, of Ms. Ireland’s teaching certificates through September 30, 2014. No action was taken by the Board. The matter was referred back to the Investigative Unit for additional background information.

### **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [ ] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED BELOW:**

That the Board **accepts** the recommendation of the PPAC and **issue a suspension, with conditions, of Lindsay D. Ireland’s teaching certificates through September 30, 2014**, and that all states and territories be so notified.

**ATTACHMENTS: YES [X] NO [ ]**

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<sup>1</sup> Alprazolam is a type of benzodiazepine (psychoactive drugs) classified as a Schedule IV drug of the Controlled Substances Act by the Drug Enforcement Administration for having a medically accepted use in treatment with a risk of abuse. 21 C.F.R. § 1308.14(c)(1)