

CAROL MAHER, :
 :
 PETITIONER, :
 :
 V. :
 : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
 BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE :
 SHORE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL : DECISION
 DISTRICT, MONMOUTH COUNTY, :
 :
 RESPONDENT. :
 :
 _____ :

SYNOPSIS

The District reduced petitioner from a 4/5th position as a school social worker to a 1/5th position beginning in the 2002-03 school year. Petitioner sought enforcement of her tenure and seniority rights and appointment to a 4/5th position as a social worker or other position under her educational services certification.

The ALJ determined that the District's decision to adjust the Child Study Team's workload was made in good faith and promoted economy and efficiency. The ALJ concluded that petitioner's tenure rights were not infringed. Petition was dismissed.

The Commissioner adopted the Initial Decision as his own.

This synopsis is not part of the Commissioner's decision. It has been prepared for the convenience of the reader. It has been neither reviewed nor approved by the Commissioner.

January 8, 2004

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The record of this matter and the Initial Decision of the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) have been reviewed. Petitioner's exceptions and the Board's reply thereto were submitted in accordance with *N.J.A.C.* 1:1-18.4 and were considered by the Commissioner in reaching his decision.

Upon careful and independent review of the record in this matter, which included a transcript of the hearing held at the OAL on July 17, 2003, the Commissioner concurs with the findings and conclusions of the ALJ. Accordingly, the Initial Decision is adopted for the reasons expressed therein.

IT IS SO ORDERED.*

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: January 8, 2004

Date of Mailing: January 12, 2004

* This decision may be appealed to the State Board of Education pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-27 *et seq.* and *N.J.A.C.* 6A:4-1.1 *et seq.*