#173-10SEC (SEC Decision: http://www.nj.gov/education/legal/ethics/2009/C03-09.pdf)

IN THE MATTER OF VALERIE JORDAN, :

HIGH BRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION, : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

HUNTERDON COUNTY. : DECISION

SYNOPSIS

The School Ethics Commission (Commission) found that respondent – a member of the High Bridge Board of Education – violated *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-24.1(g) of the Code of Ethics for School Board Members of the School Ethics Act when she transmitted confidential correspondence from Board counsel to the Interim County Superintendent of Schools and when she posted on NJ.com inaccurate information regarding the salary negotiations for the Interim Superintendent. The Commission recommended the penalty of reprimand in this matter.

The Commissioner – whose jurisdiction is limited to reviewing the Commission's recommended sanction in the absence of an appeal of the finding of violation – adopted the Commission's recommendation that respondent be reprimanded, finding that the Commission fairly considered the nature and circumstances of respondent's violations, as well as applicable case precedent pertaining to penalty.

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.

AGENCY DKT. NO. 76-4/10

SEC DKT. NO. C 03-09

IN THE MATTER OF VALERIE JORDAN,

HIGH BRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION, : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

HUNTERDON COUNTY. : DECISION

The record of this matter and the decision of the School Ethics Commission,

forwarded to the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-29 for final determination on the

Commission's recommended penalty, have been reviewed. Respondent did not file exceptions, nor

was the Commission's underlying finding of violation appealed to the Commissioner pursuant to

N.J.A.C. 6A:4.

Upon review, the Commissioner concurs with the penalty recommended by the

Commission. Accordingly, the above-named respondent is hereby reprimanded as a school official

found to have violated the School Ethics Act.

IT IS SO ORDERED. *

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision:

June 7, 2010

Date of Mailing:

June 9, 2010

^{*} This decision may be appealed to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court pursuant to *P.L.* 2008, *c.* 36, *N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-9.1.