

AGENCY DKT. NO. 95-4/18

IN THE MATTER OF THOMAS MACPHERSON, :  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
OF PINE HILL, CAMDEN COUNTY. : DECISION  
\_\_\_\_\_ :

The record of this matter and the decision of the School Ethics Commission (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. The Commission determined that the respondent violated the School Ethics Act for failure to file disclosure statements that are required in accordance with *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-25, *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-26, and *N.J.A.C.* 6A:28-3.1. The Commission recommended a sanction of removal effective upon the adoption of the decision by the Commissioner. Alternatively, if the respondent files his disclosure statement before the Commissioner issues his final decision, the Commission recommends that the respondent be suspended for 30 days. Respondent did not file exceptions nor has he submitted proof that he filed his disclosure statement. Respondent also did not appeal the Commission's underlying finding of violation pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6A:4.

Upon review, the Commissioner concurs with the penalty recommended by the Commission and additionally admonishes respondent for failing to honor an obligation placed upon school officials by law, since such failure has resulted in unnecessary expenditure of administrative and adjudicative resources at both State and local levels. Accordingly, the respondent is removed from his position as a school official, as of the date of this decision, for violating the School Ethics Act.

IT IS SO ORDERED.\*

ACTING COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: May 3, 2018  
Date of Mailing: May 3, 2018

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\* 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)