

ROSEANN E. BROWN, :  
PETITIONER, :  
V. : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF : DECISION  
CAMDEN, CAMDEN COUNTY, AND :  
ANNETTE D. KNOX, SUPERINTENDENT, :  
RESPONDENTS. :

---

SYNOPSIS

Petitioner, who was formerly employed by the Board under a fixed-term contract in the non-certificated title of public information officer, asserted that the Board: 1) did not follow proper procedures for non-renewal of her employment contract; and 2) denied her retroactive pay which was paid to other non-bargaining unit employees.

The ALJ concluded *inter alia* that: non-certificated employees of local school boards under fixed-term contracts have no right to continued employment by such boards other than the protections provided by *N.J.S.A. 18A:27-4.1*; petitioner has had due process by way of this case and has not shown that the Board's nonrenewal of her employment was arbitrary and capricious or otherwise unlawful; the Board should not be ordered to renew petitioner's employment; and the Board should not be ordered to pay the petitioner retroactive raises. The ALJ ordered the petitioner's claims dismissed with prejudice.

The Commissioner concurs with the ALJ that the petitioner failed in her burden of proving that the Board acted unlawfully when it: 1) did not renew her contract for the 2003-2004 school year; and 2) denied her claim for retroactive pay increases. Accordingly, the Initial Decision is adopted for the reasons expressed therein, and the petition is hereby dismissed with prejudice.

<p>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.</p>
---

ROSEANN E. BROWN, :  
 :  
 PETITIONER, :  
 :  
 V. : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
 :  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF : DECISION  
 CAMDEN, CAMDEN COUNTY, AND :  
 ANNETTE D. KNOX, SUPERINTENDENT, :  
 :  
 RESPONDENTS. :

---

The record of this matter and the Initial Decision of the Office of Administrative Law have been reviewed. The parties did not file exceptions.

Upon a careful and independent review of the record in this matter, the Commissioner concurs with the Administrative Law Judge that petitioner, a nontenured public information officer, failed in her burden of proving that the Board acted unlawfully when it: 1) did not renew her contract for the 2003-2004 school year; and 2) denied her claim for retroactive pay increases.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision dismissing the petition in this matter, with prejudice, is adopted for the reasons expressed therein.

IT IS SO ORDERED. \*

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: July 22, 2005

Date of Mailing: July 25, 2005

---

\* 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.*