

193-18SEC (SEC Decision: Not available online)

AGENCY DKT. NO. 132-5/18

IN THE MATTER OF LORENA PORTILLO, :
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWN : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
OF WEST NEW YORK, HUDSON COUNTY. : DECISION

The Commissioner has reviewed the record of this matter and the decision of the School Ethics Commission (SEC) – finding that respondent violated the School Ethics Act (SEA) for failure to timely complete the mandatory Governance 3 training, in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 18A:12-33*. The SEC’s decision was forwarded to the Commissioner for final determination on the recommended penalty, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:12-29(c)*. The SEC advises that respondent ultimately completed her training following the SEC’s issuance of an Order to Show Cause on April 24, 2018. Respondent has not filed exceptions to the recommended penalty, nor has she instituted an appeal before the Commissioner – pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:4-1 et seq.* – of the SEC’s underlying finding of violation.

Upon review, the Commissioner concurs with the penalty recommended by the SEC for respondent’s failure to timely honor an obligation placed upon school board members by law. Additionally, respondent is admonished for causing the unnecessary expenditure of administrative and adjudicative resources at both State and local levels.

Accordingly, respondent is hereby reprimanded as a school official found to have violated the SEA for failure to complete required training in a timely manner.

IT IS SO ORDERED.¹

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: June 29, 2018

Date of Mailing: July 2, 2018

¹ 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*)