

167-21

OAL Dkt. No. EDU 03052-20
Agency Dkt. No. 21-1/20

New Jersey Commissioner of Education

Decision

K.L., on behalf of minor child, M.L.,

Petitioner,

v.

Board of Education of the Township of Verona,
Essex County,

Respondent.

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

Upon review, the Commissioner agrees with the Administrative Law Judge's determination – for the reasons stated in the Initial Decision – that no issues remain in dispute and that the petition of appeal should be dismissed. Accordingly, the Initial Decision of the OAL is adopted as the final decision in this matter for the reasons expressed therein, and the petition is hereby dismissed.

IT IS SO ORDERED. ¹


ANGELINA ALLEN McMILLAN, Ed.S.
ACTING COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: August 17, 2021
Date of Mailing: August 17, 2021

¹ This decision may be appealed to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-9.1. Under *N.J.Ct.R.* 2:4-1(b), a notice of appeal must be filed with the Appellate Division within 45 days from the date of mailing of this decision.



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

INITIAL DECISION

DISMISSAL

OAL DKT. NO. EDU 03052-20

AGENCY DKT. NO. 21-1/20

K.L. ON BEHALF OF MINOR CHILD, M.L.,

Petitioner,

v.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF VERONA, ESSEX COUNTY**

Respondent.

K.L., petitioner, pro se

Daniel R. Roberts, Esq., for respondent (Kenney Gross Kovats & Parton,
attorneys)

Record Closed: July 7, 2021

Decided: July 7, 2021

BEFORE, **LESLIE Z. CELENTANO**, ALJ:

STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On January 24, 2020 Petitioner K.L., on behalf of M.L., filed an appeal challenging the disciplinary action imposed by respondent. Petitioner's request for a hearing was

granted and the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law where it was filed on March 2, 2020, for hearing as a contested case.

A telephone conference was scheduled for October 7, 2020, however petitioner failed to appear for the telephone conference. On October 7, 2020, correspondence was sent to petitioner inquiring as to whether she wished to continue to pursue this matter. No response was received. On May 27, 2021, correspondence was again sent to petitioner inquiring as to the status of this matter, and advising that if there was no response, the matter would be dismissed on June 4, 2021. No reply to that correspondence was received, and there has been no communication whatsoever from petitioner.

Based upon all of the foregoing I **FIND** that this matter should be and is hereby **DISMISSED**.

I hereby **FILE** this initial decision with the **COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION** for consideration.

This recommended decision may be adopted, modified or rejected by the **COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**, who by law is authorized to make a final decision in this matter. If the Commissioner of the Department of Education does not adopt, modify or reject this decision within forty-five days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10.

Within thirteen days from the date on which this recommended decision was mailed to the parties, any party may file written exceptions with the **COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, ATTN: BUREAU OF CONTROVERSIES AND DISPUTES, 100 Riverview Plaza, 4th Floor, PO Box 500, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0500**, marked "Attention: Exceptions." A copy of any exceptions must be sent to the judge and to the other parties.

July 7, 2021
DATE



LESLIE Z. CELENTANO, ALJ

Date Received at Agency:

July 7, 2021

Date Mailed to Parties:
dr

July 7, 2021