

New Jersey Commissioner of Education

Final Decision

In the Matter of the Suspension of the
Teaching Certificates of Jacob Petrik,
Board of Education of the City of Gloucester,
Camden County.

Synopsis

This matter was opened before the Commissioner of Education on February 5, 2024, by way of an Order to Show Cause served by the petitioner, Board of Education of the City of Gloucester, upon respondent Jacob Petrick, requiring him to show cause why an order should not be entered suspending his teaching certificates pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:26-10* and *N.J.S.A. 18A:28-8* for resigning without giving the notice required by law. In response to the Order to Show Cause, respondent emailed the Office of Controversies and Disputes on March 15, 2024, indicating that he did not wish to challenge the Order to Show Cause.

Upon review, the Commissioner concluded that the allegations, which respondent has chosen not to deny, may be deemed admitted and justify suspension of respondent's certificates. Accordingly, summary decision was granted to the Board, and respondent's certificates were suspended for a period of one year from the date of the filing of this decision – a copy of which was forwarded to the State Board of Examiners for the purpose of effectuating this order.

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.

New Jersey Commissioner of Education

Final Decision

In the Matter of the Suspension of the Teaching Certificates of Jacob Petrik, Board of Education of the City of Gloucester, Camden County.

This matter was opened before the Commissioner of Education on February 5, 2024, by way of an Order to Show Cause served by petitioner (Gloucester City Board of Education) upon respondent (Jacob Petrik), requiring respondent to show cause why an order should not be entered suspending his teaching certificates pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:26-10* and *N.J.S.A. 18A:28-8* for resigning without giving the notice required by law.

On March 14, 2024, respondent emailed the Office of Controversies and Disputes and stated that he does not wish to challenge the Order to Show Cause.

The petition and supporting exhibits submitted by petitioner in this matter indicate that: respondent entered into a contract to work as a teacher for the 2023-2024 school year; the contract provides that it can be terminated by the employee upon sixty days' written notice; and on January 11, 2024, respondent sent correspondence to petitioner indicating that he was resigning, effective February 2, 2024, thereby providing less than the required sixty days' notice. The respondent has not denied these allegations; therefore, the Commissioner deems such allegations to be admitted pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.5(a)* and further deems them sufficient to justify suspension of respondent's teaching certificates pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:26-10* and *N.J.S.A. 18A:28-8*.

Accordingly, summary decision is hereby granted to petitioner, and respondent's teaching certificates, as well as any substitute teaching credential he may hold, are suspended for a period of one year from the filing date of this decision, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the State Board of Examiners for implementation of the suspension.

IT IS SO ORDERED.¹



ACTING COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: April 11, 2024

Date of Mailing: April 12, 2024

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.