

IN THE MATTER OF :
 DEBBIE A. PHILLIPS, :
 BOARD OF EDUCATION OF : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
 THE TOWNSHIP OF ELSINBORO, : DECISION
 SALEM COUNTY. :
 _____:

Whereas, the School Ethics Commission has acted pursuant to the authority granted to it by *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-21 *et seq.* to recommend removal of the above-named Board member from office for failure to attend the Board member training sessions required by *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-33 and *N.J.A.C.* 6:3-9.4; and

Whereas, the School Ethics Commission sent ample notice to the above-named Board member of her failure to attend such training sessions; and

Whereas, pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6:3-9.3(I), on March 25, 1997, the Commission issued an Order to Show Cause why a penalty should not be imposed for such failure; and

Whereas, the above-named Board member informed the Commission by letter dated April 15, 1997 that she had been unable to attend the classes because of her work schedule and stated that she planned to schedule herself to attend a class in the near future; and

Whereas, she further replied that she was unable to attend the training sessions offered in June because they are weekend sessions and she is a single parent, so she has signed up for the October class; and

Whereas the Commission, having considered such response, voted on May 27, 1997, to recommend removal of the above-named Board member for failure to attend

training sessions in violation of State statute, memorializing such decision through a resolution forwarded to the Commissioner, pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-29; and

Whereas, on May 28, 1997, the above-named Board member was afforded an opportunity to submit to the Commissioner a response to said resolution recommending removal; and

Whereas, no response was forthcoming; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of Education has carefully considered the record of this matter and the decision of the School Ethics Commission and concurs with and adopts as his own the recommendations of the Commission; now therefore

IT IS ORDERED that the above-named Board member is removed from office as of the date of this decision.

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

JULY 8, 1997