

New Jersey Commissioner of Education
Final Decision

In the Matter of Jenny Brown, Board of Education
of the Borough of Ringwood, Passaic County.

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 for failure to timely file her Personal/Relative and Financial Disclosure Statements (“Disclosure Statements”) in accordance with *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-25, *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-26, and *N.J.A.C.* 6A:28-3.1. 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 the respondent ultimately resigned from the Board after the issuance of its July 23, 2019 Order to Show Cause, but prior to the SEC’s August 30, 2019 meeting; therefore, the SEC recommends a penalty of reprimand. Respondent has neither filed exceptions to the recommended penalty, nor has she instituted an appeal of the SEC’s underlying finding of violation pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6A:4-1 *et seq.*

Upon review, the Commissioner concurs with the penalty recommended by the SEC in consequence of 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 School Ethics Act.

IT IS SO ORDERED.¹

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: October 8, 2019
Date of Mailing: October 9, 2019

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).