

February 22, 2007

Mr. Adam Piccoli

Re: In the Matter of the Application for Certification of Adam Piccoli
Docket No. 0607-170

Dear Mr. Piccoli:

As you are aware, you have appealed the determination that you are ineligible for either a Teacher of Students with Disabilities Certificate of Eligibility (CE) or a Teacher of Social Studies Certificate of Eligibility (CE). At its meeting of January 18, 2007, the State Board of Examiners reviewed the information that you provided in support of your appeal. After careful consideration, at its February 22, 2007, meeting the Board voted to deny your appeal because the documentation that you submitted failed to prove that you are eligible for either CE.

Although you held an Emergency Teacher of the Handicapped certificate, which authorized you to work in a special education classroom, pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6A:9-11.3(p), all such certificates lapsed on August 31, 2006. Therefore in order to be a special education teacher in New Jersey after that date, you are required to hold a Teacher of Students with Disabilities CE as well as an instructional CE. *See N.J.A.C.* 6A:9-11.3(b). According to the evaluation issued to you on April 1, 2005, you need to complete an additional 15 credits in social studies with at least 12 of the 15 credits at advanced levels of study, such as junior, senior or graduate levels, and achieve a passing score on the relevant Praxis test in order to receive the Teacher of Social Studies CE. Although your evaluation also indicated that you needed an additional three credits in special education formal instruction, that requirement was recently eliminated. None of the documentation you submitted in support of your appeal indicated that you had completed the social studies classes as noted in the evaluation. Accordingly, you are ineligible for the Teacher of Social Studies CE, and, by extension, the Teacher of Students with Disabilities CE.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Higgins, Acting Secretary
State Board of Examiners

RRH/MZ

By certified and regular mail

Date of mailing: FEBRUARY 23, 2007

This matter may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6A:3.