

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP :  
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND :  
ROBERT JONES, on behalf of minor child, :  
J.J., :  
PETITIONERS, :  
V. : COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE : DECISION  
TOWNSHIP OF PEQUANNOCK, :  
MORRIS COUNTY, :  
RESPONDENT. :

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SYNOPSIS

Petitioners contended that Board's elimination of woodshop courses from the curriculum without formal Board action violated *N.J.S.A.18A:33-1*, *N.J.A.C. 6:8-2.5* and Board policy.

ALJ granted Board's motion for summary decision, ruling that the Pequannock Township Education Association lacked standing to pursue this action before the Commissioner since it could not demonstrate a reasonable likelihood of direct harm either to the association as an entity or to one of its members. In addition, the ALJ found the process chosen by the Board with respect to core curriculum changes, including the elimination of woodshop in this case, was proper.

Commissioner affirmed the summary decision for the reasons expressed by the ALJ. Petition was dismissed.

June 1, 1999

OAL DKT. NO. EDU 5523-98  
AGENCY DKT. NO. 137-5/98

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The record of this matter and the initial decision of the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) have been reviewed. No exceptions were filed by the parties.

Upon his independent and careful review of the record, the Commissioner agrees with the conclusion of the Administrative Law Judge that summary decision is appropriately granted to the Board in this matter.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision of the OAL granting the Board's Motion for Summary Decision is affirmed for the reasons expressed therein. The Petition of Appeal is, therefore, dismissed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

June 1, 1999