

AGENCY DKT. NO. 8-1/08

IN THE MATTER OF JOHN PETERSON,	:	COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF	:	DECISION
EDUCATION, CUMBERLAND COUNTY.	:	

The record of this matter and the decision of the School Ethics Commission – forwarded to the Commissioner pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-29 solely for review of the Commission’s recommended penalty – have been reviewed, as has respondent’s letter dated December 10, 2007, stating that his disclosure statement(s) would be filed “before the scheduled December 18 meeting of the School Ethics Commission.” The Commissioner notes, however, that the required disclosure statement(s) have not been filed as of the date of this decision.

Upon review of the matter, the Commissioner concurs with the penalty recommended by the Commission, and additionally admonishes the respondent for failure to file the requisite statement(s). Such disregard of the law has caused administrative and adjudicative time to be wasted by local, county and State education officials.

Accordingly, the above-named respondent is hereby suspended as a school official found to have violated the School Ethics Act, such suspension to remain in effect until the completed disclosure statement(s) are filed, provided, however, that if such statement(s) are not filed within 30 days of the mailing date of this decision, the above-named school official shall be summarily removed from office.

IT IS SO ORDERED. *

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: February 1, 2008

Date of Mailing: February 1, 2008

* This decision, as the Commissioner’s final determination regarding penalty in the instant matter, may be appealed to the State Board of Education pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-27 *et seq.* and *N.J.A.C.* 6A:4-1.1 *et seq.* Pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6A:4-1.4(a), Commissioner decisions are deemed filed three days after the date of mailing to the parties.