

**New Jersey Commissioner of Education**  
**Final Decision**

In the Matter of the Certificates of  
Ranjan Chattopadhyay, School District of the  
Township of North Brunswick,  
Middlesex County.

For the Petitioner, Ari D. Schneider, Esq.

No appearance by or on behalf of Respondent, Ranjan Chattopadhyay

This matter was opened before the Commissioner of Education on May 16, 2019, by way of an Order to Show Cause served by petitioner, the North Brunswick Township Board of Education (Board), upon the respondent, Ranjan Chattopadhyay, requiring respondent to show cause why an order should not be entered suspending his teaching certificate pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:26-10* for resigning without giving the notice required by his contract with petitioner. By notice dated June 12, 2019, the Office of Controversies and Disputes (Office) acknowledged receipt of proof that the Order to Show Cause had been served upon respondent and directed respondent to answer within 20 days.

No answer having yet been received, on July 3, 2019, the Office sent respondent a second notice, via regular and certified mail, directing that he file an answer within ten days. The notice advised that, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.5(e)*, failure to answer would cause each allegation in petitioner's papers to be deemed admitted and might result in summary decision by the Commissioner. The copy of the notice that was sent via certified mail was returned as unclaimed. The copy of the notice sent via regular mail was not returned. No answer to the Order to Show Cause has been filed as of this date.

The affidavit submitted by the petitioner in this matter states that the respondent entered into a contract with the petitioner for employment from October 21, 2018 through June 30, 2019. On March 20, 2019 the respondent informed the district that he would not be fulfilling the term of his employment. Despite a warning that the failure to give 60 days notice prior to his resignation could jeopardize his certificate, the respondent resigned effective March 28, 2019. The respondent has not denied the allegations therein; therefore, the Commissioner deems such allegations to be admitted pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.5(e)* and further deems them sufficient to justify suspension of respondent's teaching certification pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:26-10*.

Accordingly, summary decision is hereby granted to petitioner, and respondent's teaching certification is suspended for a period of one year from the filing date of this decision, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the State Board of Examiners for implementation of the suspension.

IT IS SO ORDERED.\*

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: September 5, 2019

Date of Mailing: September 9, 2019

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\* Pursuant to *P.L. 2008, c. 36 (N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9.1)*, Commissioner decisions are appealable to the Superior Court, Appellate Division