

New Jersey Commissioner of Education
Final Decision

In the Matter of Anthony Cassano,
Board of Education of the City of
Leonida, Bergen County.

The Commissioner has reviewed the record of this matter and the decision of the School Ethics Commission (Commission), finding that respondent violated the School Ethics Act for failure to timely complete school board member training in accordance with *N.J.S.A.* 18A:12-33 and *N.J.A.C.* 6A:28-4.1. The Commission'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 Commission advises that respondent ultimately completed the training after the issuance of its April 21, 2020 Order to Show Cause. Respondent filed exceptions to the recommended penalty, providing a list of various circumstances that he alleges prevented him from completing the training in a timely manner.

Upon review, the Commissioner does not find respondent's exceptions persuasive and concurs with the penalty recommended by the Commission for respondent's failure to timely honor an obligation placed upon 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.*

Date of Decision: 6/24/2020
Date of Mailing: 6/25/2020

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

* 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)