Agency Dkt. No. 221-11/21

New Jersey Commissioner of Education

Final Decision

In the Matter of the Tenure Hearing of Cory LaBov, School District of the Borough of Woodbine, Cape May County.

For the Petitioner, Michael P. Stanton, Esq.

No appearance by or on behalf of Respondent, Cory LaBov

This matter was opened before the Commissioner of Education on November 23, 2021, through tenure charges of unbecoming conduct certified by Dennis J. Anderson, Interim Superintendent of the Woodbine School District ("District"), together with supporting evidence against respondent, Cory LaBov, a tenured teaching staff member in the District's employ. The District provided respondent with written notice of such certification at the respondent's current address, via certified mail.

On November 29, 2021, the Commissioner directed the respondent via regular mail to file an answer to the charges. This communication clearly provided notice to respondent that, pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6A:3-5.3 and 6A:3-5.4, an individual against whom tenure charges are certified *"shall have 15 days from the day such charges are filed with the Commissioner to file a written response to the charges with the Commissioner,"* and that failure to answer within the prescribed period would – absent granting of an extension for good cause shown – result in the charges being deemed admitted. No reply to the tenure charges was received from or on behalf of the respondent.

The certified tenure charges and statement of supporting evidence filed by the District in this matter indicate that the respondent was employed by the District as a tenured teacher. The

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Statement of Evidence outlines various violations of board policy by the respondent, including respondent's failure to report to the District three separate arrests for violating a Judicial Order.

Deeming the allegations to be admitted and noting that the respondent has failed to respond to the charges certified against him at the District level and before the Commissioner, the Commissioner finds that the District's charge of unbecoming conduct has been proven and overwhelmingly warrants the respondent's dismissal. Accordingly, summary decision is hereby granted to the District, and the respondent is dismissed from his tenured position with the Woodbine School District. This matter will be transmitted to the State Board of Examiners for action against respondent's certificate(s) as that body deems appropriate.

IT IS SO ORDERED.¹

Angelien Gellen M. Millan, Jd. D.

ACTING COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Date of Decision: Date of Mailing: January 20, 2022 January 20, 2022

¹ This decision may be appealed to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:6-9.1. Under *N.J.Ct.R.* 2:4-1(b), a notice of appeal must be filed with the Appellate Division within 45 days from the date of mailing of this decision.