

Larkins, Jeannette

From: Chrissy Skurbe [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 4:37 PM
To: Dehmer, Kevin; Anderson, Kyle; 'Vito A. Gagliardi'
Cc: 'Chari Chanley'; 'Laura Allen'; 'Katie Fabiano'; 'Carmen Alvarez'; 'Gail DiPane'; 'Kate Rattner'; 'Usha Sharma'; 'Charles Zeichner'; 'Peter Tufano'; 'Amanda Peck'
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Robin Soriano v Chari Chanley Decision

***** CAUTION *****

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Dear Mr. Dehmer, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Gagliardi -

I was in attendance at the Monroe Township Board of Education meeting last night and i was surprised to hear there was a decision in the above mentioned case. I Googled it this morning and read the attached as I had idea there was a final decision.

As you know, I was the Monroe Board of Education President when the Board approved Dr. Chanley as Acting Superintendent.

As I read through this decision, I feel compelled to reach out to you all. There seems to be a misunderstanding of what took place. The Acting Superintendent contract was never extended, amended or revoked on after the initial Board approval in November 2021. The Board received its legal counsel from Mr. Gagliardi at this time and there are several emails between myself, Mr. Gagliardi and Mr. Anderson on the steps needed to proceed since Dr. Chanley did not have her standard certificate. The law required that the Commissioner of Education had to grant an extension of her approval every 3 months until a permanent superintendent was hired. The Board, through Mr. Gagliardi's office, requested the commissioners approval in February 2022. The Board was told there was no vote required to ask the Commissioner for her approval since the contract was not altered in any way and was only required because Dr. Chanley was pursuing the standard certificate required by law. There was a few community members, one being the current Board President's husband, Brian Fabiano, that insisted the Board needed to revoke on the Acting Superintendent contract. We were advised by the board legal counsel, Mr. Gagliardi, that was not true. The Board in May 2022 did approve a resolution to ask the Commissioner of Education to grant an extension of her approval of the Acting Superintendent contract in accordance with the law that states approval must be granted every 3 months if the Acting Superintendent does not have a standard certificate. This is very different than a Board voting on a Superintendent contract, which it never did after November 2021.

Last night, Brian Fabiano spoke at the Board of Education meeting in which his wife was presiding over and was screaming that Dr Chanley had "an illegal contract" and that if the board decided to take a vote and not approve it, she owed the taxpayers of Monroe all the money back. He said specifically that I gave Dr. Chanley an illegal contract and the Board needed to revoke it. He was irate and irrational and out of control.

I write this to you to ask that you please reconsider your decision in this case. I did testify in this matter and I do not believe it was clear that the Board never held another vote on the Acting Superintendent contract - that is why there was no public hearing.

Mr. Anderson and Mr. Gagliardi were both extremely helpful in this process and were the guiding force behind what the Board did. I think there is a miscommunication and misunderstanding of what took place during that time period as the law requires that the Commissioner of Education approve every 3 months the Acting Superintendent contract if there is not a standard certificate held. It does not require a Board to revote on the Acting Superintendent contract every 3 months. If it does, then this Board of Education violated the law in 2014 when Dennis Ventrello was the Acting Superintendent and did not have a standard certificate. The Board of Education approved his Acting Contract 1 time and every 3 months announced that it was reapproved by the Dept of Education. Same is true in 2018 when the Board of Education hired Robert Goodall as Acting Superintendent. He did not have a standard certificate either. Same thing took place. The Board approved his contract 1 time and then the Board announced every 3 months he was reapproved by the Dept of Education. I know this because I attended almost every single board meeting from 2012 - 2020 before being elected to the Board of Education.

As you decision says the Board of Education is required to hold a vote of the Acting Superintendent contract for Dr. Chanley, it would seem they should also have to vote on the Acting contract for Mr. Ventrello and Mr. Goodall. I do not know what any of that will do at this point because Dr. Chanley has a permanent contract through June 2028, Mr. Goodall is the Superintendent of the Manaquan School District and Mr. Ventrello is retired. If the Board of Education was misguided by legal counsel and the County Superintendent, perhaps a corrective action plan for the Board should be put in place. It does not make sense to take a vote on something that was not required under the law by a Board that was not seated at that time.

Please see the attached video. Although the Dept of Education seems to be viewing this as a procedural correction, as you see from the attached video, it is a continuation of a personal vendetta of the Board President's husband Brian Fabiano. He says that the Commissioner of Education deemed these Acting Superintendent contracts illegal. I did not read that in your ruling and since his wife, the Board President, did not correct him, that is what the community is left to think. So as you see, this is not being looked at as a procedural correction but another attempt to unseat a sitting Superintendent with false accusations. https://youtu.be/yMpvc8_C6ko

Sincerely,

Chrissy Skurbe
Former Monroe Board of Education President Jan 2022- April 2024

Larkins, Jeannette

From: ControversiesDisputes
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2025 12:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Robin Soriano v Chari Chanley Decision
Attachments: 096-05-22 Correspondence 2-28-25.pdf

Ms. Skurbe,

Please see the attached correspondence.

Jennifer Simons
she/her/hers
Director
Office of Controversies & Disputes
New Jersey Department of Education
100 Riverview Plaza | Trenton, NJ - 08625
Work: 609-376-9079
Email: ControversiesDisputes@doe.nj.gov
Web: <https://www.nj.gov/education/>



From: Chrissy Skurbe [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 4:37 PM
To: Dehmer, Kevin <Kevin.Dehmer@doe.nj.gov>; Anderson, Kyle <Kyle.Anderson@doe.nj.gov>; Vito A. Gagliardi <vagagliardi@pbnlaw.com>
Cc: Chari Chanley <chari.chanley@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Laura Allen <laura.allen@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Katie Fabiano <katie.fabiano@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Carmen Alvarez <carmen.alvarez@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Gail DiPane <gail.dipane@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Kate Rattner <kate.rattner@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Usha Sharma <usha.sharma@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Charles Zeichner <charles.zeichner@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Peter Tufano <peter.tufano@monroe.k12.nj.us>; Amanda Peck <amanda.peck@monroe.k12.nj.us>
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Sincerely,

Chrissy Skurbe
Former Monroe Board of Education President Jan 2022- April 2024



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO Box 500

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY

Lt. Governor

KEVIN DEHMER

Commissioner

February 28, 2025

VIA EMAIL

Chrissy Skurbe

Re: Robin Soriano v. Board of Education of the Township of Monroe, Middlesex County, and Chari Chanley, Acting Superintendent, Agency Dkt. No. 96-5/22

Dear Ms. Skurbe:

Your email dated February 20, 2025, regarding the Commissioner's decision in the above-captioned matter, was forwarded to our office. Please be advised that, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.15(b)*, only parties to a contested case are permitted to make a motion for reconsideration of the Commissioner's decision. None of the parties to this case made such a motion, and the 10-day time limit for them to do so has passed. Accordingly, the Commissioner's decision stands, unless it is appealed and reversed by the Appellate Division of the Superior Court. To date, no appeal of the Commissioner's decision has been filed.

Very truly yours,

Jennifer Simons

Jennifer Simons

Director, Office of Controversies and Disputes