

Simons, Jennifer

From: peter tufano [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2025 12:15 AM
To: ControversiesDisputesFilings
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Monroe Township Superintendent Chanley
Attachments: Statement of allegations PT (1).docx; PetitionPTpage1 (1).png; PetitionPTPage2.png

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Pete Tufano

Pro Se Petition of Appeal

Please note: This petition of appeal template is made available for convenience purposes only; this form does not have to be used in order to initiate a contested case before the Commissioner of Education. All information on this form, with the exception of fields marked "optional," is required in order to initiate a contested case. Failure to complete any area may delay the opening of your petition.

Date: May 9, 2025



Section I. Parties' Information

Petitioner's information

Name: Peter Tufano

Address: [REDACTED]

Daytime phone/cell phone: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

Respondent's information:

Name: Monroe Board of Education

Address: 423 Buckelew Ave, Monroe Twp, NJ 08831

Phone number: 732-521-1500

Email address (optional):

Section II. Statement of Specific Allegations and Essential Supporting Facts

Petitioner hereby requests the Commissioner of Education to consider a controversy which has arisen between petitioner and respondent pursuant to the authority of the Commissioner to hear and determine controversies under the school law (N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9), by reason of the following facts:

(In this section, please set forth in as many itemized paragraphs as are necessary to identify the specific allegation(s), and the supporting facts, which constitute the basis for the dispute. Please attach additional sheets as necessary.)

I have attached my statement of allegations

Section III. Relief Requested

Wherefore, petitioner requests the following relief:

(In this section, please set forth the relief desired. Please attach additional sheets as necessary.)

I am requesting that Dr. Chanley not be kept on administrative leave and continues as the Superintendent of the Monroe Township School District. I am also requesting that the Dept of Education suspend Katie Fabiano as a Board

Petitioner Signature: Peter Tufano

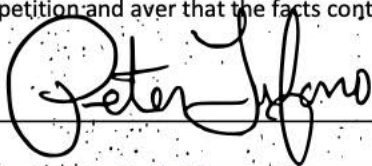
Date: May 9, 2025

Section IV. Statement of Verification

Peter Tufano, of full age, being duly sworn upon his or her oath according to law deposes and says
name of petitioner

- I am the petitioner in the foregoing matter.
- I have read the petition and aver that the facts contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Petitioner signature:



Date: May 9, 2025

Section V. Proof of Service

You must provide a copy of this petition of appeal to the respondent (or their attorney). Please see the options below.

1. Deliver a copy of the petition in person. Ask the recipient to sign a receipt. Include a copy of the receipt when you file this form.
2. Mail a copy of the petition by certified mail. Include a copy of the certified mailing receipt when you file this form.
3. Mail a copy of the petition by regular mail. Prepare and sign a affidavit or certificate of service. Include a copy of the affidavit certificate of service when you file this form.

Section VI. If Seeking Relief on an Emergent Basis

If relief is sought on an emergency basis, the petitioner must additionally file a motion accompanied by a memorandum addressing the standard for granting such relief pursuant to Crowe v. DeGioia, 90 N.J. 126 (1982); see N.J.A.C. 6A:3-

1.6. This means the petitioner must demonstrate that:

- The petitioner will suffer irreparable harm if the requested relief is not granted;
- The legal right underlying petitioner's claim is settled;
- The petitioner has a likelihood of prevailing on the merits of the underlying claim; and
- When the equities and interests of the parties are balanced, the petitioner will suffer greater harm than the respondent will suffer if the requested relief is not granted.

If possible, please file your Petition of Appeal by emailing it to ControversiesDisputesFilings@doe.nj.gov. If you are unable to file by email, please mail your Petition of Appeal to:

Commissioner of Education
c/o Director of Office of Controversies and Disputes
New Jersey State Department of Education
P.O. Box 500,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

Statement of allegations:

I am a Board of Education Member in Monroe Township, NJ. I have sat and watched for the last year the Board President, Katie Fabiano go after Dr. Chanley at various times. Since Katie Fabiano has taken over as President of the Board of Education, it has been apparent that she was not in support of Dr. Chanley simply because she had a good relationship with the former Board President Chrissy Skurbe. On numerous occasions, board discussions always revolve around former board President Chrissy Skurbe and certain board members disdain for her.

At the May 5, 2025 Board of Education there was much controversy over the Superintendent's recommendation to reapprove Dr. Orselina Cetta as the Woodland School Principal. I was not sure how my fellow board members were going to vote and I made a statement that I thought it was terrible what this Board was doing to her as there was no reason the Board had to withhold their approval. It is my opinion that they were trying to withhold renewal for her because she was hired by Dr. Chanley under the Board leadership of Chrissy Skurbe. It is my opinion that Katie Fabiano orchestrated the vote to put Chari Chanley on administrative leave as retaliation for Dr. Chanley putting Dr. Cetta back on the May 5th agenda for renewal.

During the closed session portion of the May 5th meeting, of which I was part of, the Board discussed the superintendent's evaluation. At no time did any board member make a recommendation to put the superintendent on administrative leave. While the Board Attorney was in closed session, he was not consulted about putting the superintendent on leave. When we emerged from closed session, I had no idea Gail DiPane was making a motion to put the superintendent on leave. There was zero discussion. President Katie Fabiano went right to a vote. It was all very calculated and executed as a surprise so no one could react fast enough to stop it.

It should be mentioned that this is the first time Katie Fabiano ever voted on any item dealing with the Superintendent. As a Board Member, we were previously given a legal opinion written by the former board attorney that set forth all the reasons they believed she was conflicted. The Board fired him last year as soon as Katie Fabiano took control as President. As a Board member I have witnessed first-hand Katie Fabiano going against attorney advice and taking votes contrary to what was legally advised.

Additionally, Peter Piro is a Board member that has a personal vendetta against Chari Chanley from when he was an employee. He blamed her and Chrissy Skurbe for things

that were not true in his resignation letter. Recently, he authored a letter to a resident in which he broke confidentiality, spoke about personnel matter regarding Dr. Cetta and publicly evaluated Dr. Chanley. All of this is a clear violation of the law and several ethics codes. Peter Piro also should not have voted on Chari Chanley at the May 5th meeting.

In conclusion, Dr. Chanley should be allowed to return to work as the vote and process used to put her on administrative leave was not legally carried out. The Board of Education has put the district at great risk for litigation against it. Additionally, the Department of Education should suspend Katie Fabiano for her actions against Dr. Chanley.