

September 14, 2023

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL AND EMAIL

chris.ragsdale@cobbk12.org

Mr. Christopher Ragsdale
Superintendent
Cobb County School District
514 Glover Street
Marietta, GA 30060

NOTICE OF APPEAL – KATHERINE RINDERLE

Mr. Ragsdale:

Ms. Katherine Rinderle, the above-referenced educator, appeals the Cobb County Board of Education’s (“Board”) decision to terminate Ms. Rinderle’s employment contract.

On August 17, 2023, the Board (1) fully adopted the Tribunal’s findings of fact and (2) rejected the Tribunal’s recommendation regarding Ms. Rinderle’s discipline and instead elected to terminate her employment contract. The Board’s decision was arbitrary and capricious, contrary to law, an abuse of discretion, unsupported by any or sufficient evidence, and violated due process.¹

Ms. Rinderle requests oral argument on her appeal. As required under O.C.G.A. §20-2-1160(b), the superintendent shall submit the full record to the State Board of Education. This full record includes a certified copy of the August 10-11, 2023 hearing transcript, a word index, copies of the exhibits entered into the record, a copy of the Tribunal’s decision, copies of any materials submitted to the Board by either party, and a copy of the Board’s decision.

Ms. Rinderle requests that the State Board of Education reverse the Board’s decision. Consequently, with that reversal, Ms. Rinderle further requests the full expungement of her records and that she be permitted to answer in the negative to any question related to prior investigations, charges, claims, or adverse employment actions by prior employers on any subsequent certification or employment application.

¹ Ms. Rinderle preserves all issues, defenses, and claims, and she waives none. Ms. Rinderle will provide further detail of the issues in dispute and her supporting arguments in her upcoming brief.

Sincerely,

/s/ Craig Goodmark
Craig Goodmark
Attorney at Law

GOODMARK LAW FIRM, LLC
1425 A DUTCH VALLEY PLACE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30324
OFFICE 404.719.4848
EMAIL: CGOODMARK@GMAIL.COM

/s/ Michael J. Tafelski
Michael J. Tafelski
Attorney at Law

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
150 E. PONCE DE LEON AVE., STE. 340
DECATUR, GEORGIA 30030
OFFICE: 334.315.0179
EMAIL: MICHAEL.TAFELSKI@SPLCENTER.ORG

cc: Katherine Rinderle