

SYLVIA HILL-GILCHRIST

Appellant

v.

BALTIMORE CITY BOARD
OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS,

Appellee.

BEFORE THE

MARYLAND

STATE BOARD

OF EDUCATION

Opinion No. 12-52

OPINION

INTRODUCTION

The Appellant, Sylvia Hill-Gilchrist, appealed her transfer and re-assignment from principal to teacher. The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners (local board) filed a Motion to Dismiss. The Appellant filed a Reply and a Motion to Strike an affidavit. The local board responded.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Ms. Hill-Gilchrist, a 22 year employee, was a principal in the Baltimore City Public School System. In August 2010, she was assigned to the Combined Charity program. When her assignment ended, she was assigned as a teacher in the Home and Hospital program for the 2011-2012 school year. Her salary was reduced from a principal's salary to a teacher's salary.

Appellant appealed the assignment and salary reduction decision to the local board. A hearing examiner conducted a hearing in the matter and issued a decision recommending that the local board affirm the decision to reassign the Appellant to the teaching position for the 2011-2012 school year, but also recommending that the Appellant be paid a principal's salary for that school year. On June 12, 2012, the local board accepted the hearing officer's recommendation. This appeal ensued.

STANDARD OF REVIEW


In cases involving a decision of a local board concerning a local policy, the local board's decision is considered *prima facie* correct, and the State Board may not substitute its judgment for that of the local board unless the decision is arbitrary, unreasonable, or illegal. COMAR 13A.01.05.05A.

ANALYSIS

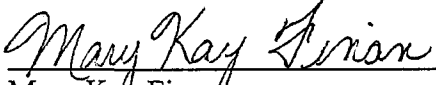
The Appellant presents 30 allegations in her appeal. They include bald assertions that her due process rights were violated; that she was discriminated against; and that others were paid more than she was. She asks this Board whether certain statements of the CEO were “void for vagueness”; whether the teacher evaluation system is fair; and whether the CEO has unrestricted absolute powers. The Appellant attached a multitude of documents to her appeal, but she has pointed to nothing in the record to support her many allegations. We have said that this Board “is not required to sift through the record to make the Appellant’s argument for [her] on appeal.” *Shumante v. Prince George’s County Bd. of Educ.*, MSBE Op. No. 10-12 (2010), citing *Van Meter v. State*, 30 Md. App. 406, 408 (1976). Indeed, we cannot do so. It is the Appellant’s burden to establish her case. This Appellant has not done so.

CONCLUSION


For these reasons set forth herein, this Appeal is dismissed.



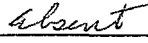
Charlene M. Dukes
President




Mary Kay Finan
Vice President




James H. DeGraffenreidt, Jr.




S. James Gates, Jr.



Luisa Montero-Diaz



Sayed M. Naved



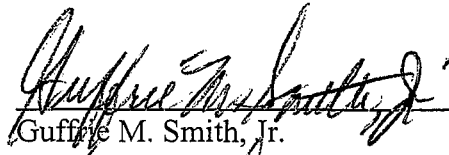
Madhu Sidhu




Donna Hill Staton



Ivan C.A. Walks


Guffie M. Smith, Jr.


Kate Walsh

December 17, 2012