

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**STATE OF GEORGIA**

<b>THELMA D. DILLARD,</b>	:	
	:	
<b>Appellant,</b>	:	
	:	<b>CASE NO. 1994-38</b>
<b>vs.</b>	:	
	:	<b>DECISION</b>
<b>BIBB COUNTY</b>	:	
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION,</b>	:	
	:	
<b>Appellee.</b>	:	
	:	
<b>ELAINE LUCAS,</b>	:	
	:	
<b>Appellant,</b>	:	
	:	<b>CASE NO. 1994-40</b>
<b>vs.</b>	:	
	:	<b>DECISION</b>
<b>BIBB COUNTY</b>	:	
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION,</b>	:	
	:	
<b>Appellee.</b>	:	

The separate appeals by Thelma Dillard (Dillard) and Elaine Lucas (Lucas) have been combined because of the substantial similarity of the issues involved. Both Dillard and Lucas have been employed by the Bibb County Board of Education (Local Board) for at least twenty-two years. Additionally, both Dillard and Lucas are elected members of the Macon City Council. They, along with Henry Ficklin, see. Ficklin v. Bibb Cnty. Bd. of Educ., Case No. 1994-34 (Ga. SBE, June 9, 1994), were charged by the Local Board with abusing their sick leave by claiming sick leave on days they attended municipal officer meetings for which they received expense reimbursements from the City of Macon. As a result, the Local Board ordered both Dillard and Lucas to repay the amounts they received as sick leave pay on the days they also received reimbursement from the City of Macon for conference expenses, and both Dillard and Lucas appealed to the State Board of Education.

We dismissed the appeal in Ficklin. supra. because the issues raised did not involve the administration or interpretation of school law since the withholding of wages did not differ from the actions of any other employer who determined that an employee was overpaid or erroneously

paid. There is nothing to distinguish the instant appeals from Ficklin. We, therefore, conclude that our decision in Ficklin controls and, accordingly, both of the appeals herein are hereby DISMISSED.

This 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1994.

Mrs. King, Mr. Sessoms, Dr. Thomas and Mr. Williams were not present  
Mr. Billingslea abstained.

Robert M. Brinson  
Vice Chairman for Appeals

**R**  
**Vice Chairman for Appeals**