

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**STATE OF GEORGIA**

<b>ADELINA K.,</b>	:	
	:	
<b>Appellant,</b>	:	
	:	<b>CASE NO. 1994-39</b>
vs.	:	
	:	<b>DECISION</b>
<b>CRAWFORD COUNTY</b>	:	
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION,</b>	:	
	:	
<b>Appellee.</b>	:	

This is an appeal by Adelina K. (Student) from a decision by the Crawford County Board of Education (Local Board) not to grant her the designation of valedictorian because she attended Crawford County High School for only two years. Based upon the policies in effect when she enrolled in Crawford County High School in 1992, the Student had the highest cumulative grade point average.

The Student contends that the Local Board changed the policy after receiving complaints from the parents of the second and third ranked students. The Local Board did not conduct a hearing. The minutes of the Local Board meeting on April 24, 1994, indicate that the Local Board listened to the Student read her appeal to the State Board of Education, but the Local Board did not take any action.

The State Board of Education only has jurisdiction to hear appeals when a local board of education conducts a hearing that involves the administration and interpretation of school law. O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1160. *See, Boney v. County Board of Education of Telfair County*, 203 Ga. 152, 45 S.E.2d 442 (1947). In this case, the Local Board did not conduct a hearing. Additionally, the assignment of grades does not involve the administration or interpretation of school law, but, instead, is a matter of local administration that is not directly subject to any state law or regulations of the Georgia Department of Education. Accordingly, the State Board of Education does not have jurisdiction to consider the Student's appeal.

Based upon the foregoing, the appeal herein is, therefore,  
**DISMISSED.**

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

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

**Robert M. Brinson**  
**Vice Chairman for Appeals**