

Parent’s complaint about bullying investigation was moot after parent moved out of state.

A parent filed a grievance with Eanes ISD, arguing that district staff did not properly investigate and handle allegations that his child had been bullied. As relief, the parent asked the commissioner to: order an investigation of bullying at Eanes ISD; discipline certain educators; and publicize the results of the investigation. Since the time of the parent’s grievance, the parent moved out of Texas. His child now attends an out-of-state school. Eanes ISD argued that the commissioner lacked jurisdiction over the grievance appeal because the case was moot, the parent requested relief that the commissioner did not have authority to grant, and the parent did not allege a violation of the school laws of the state as required to invoke the commissioner’s jurisdiction under Texas Education Code section 7.057.

The commissioner agreed that there was no longer a “live” controversy, given that the parent and his family had moved out of state. Thus, there was no relief that the commissioner could award that would “have a practical effect.” In addition, the commissioner’s authority to grant relief under Section 7.057 is limited to three actions: the commissioner may affirm a school board’s decision, reverse the decision, or remand the case to the board for further proceedings. In this case, the parent did not request any relief that the commissioner could give. The commissioner dismissed the case for mootness and lack of jurisdiction. [Parent, a/n/f v. Eanes Indep. Sch. Dist.](#), Tex. Comm’r of Educ. Decision No. 001-R10-10-2022 (Jan. 11, 2023).