UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT MYERS DIVISION

KATHALINA MONACELLI,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. 2:08-cv-904-FtM-29SPC

LEE COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION; LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD; ELINOR SCRICCA South Zone School Board Member; LEHIGH ACRES MIDDLE SCHOOL; RAY BOWERS; JOE PITURA,

Defendant.

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter is before the Court on consideration of the Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation (Doc. #10), filed April 21, 2009, recommending that plaintiff be denied *in forma pauperis* status and the case be dismissed for failure to state a claim. Plaintiff filed Written Objections (Doc. #11) on April 27, 2009.

After conducting a careful and complete review of the findings and recommendations, a district judge may accept, reject or modify the magistrate judge's report and recommendation. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); <u>Williams v. Wainwright</u>, 681 F.2d 732 (11th Cir. 1982), <u>cert. denied</u>, 459 U.S. 1112 (1983). A district judge "shall make a *de novo* determination of those portions of the report or specified proposed findings or recommendations to which objection is made." 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C). This requires that the district judge "give fresh consideration to those issues to which specific objection has been made by a party." <u>Jeffrey S. v. State</u> <u>Bd. of Educ.</u>, 896 F.2d 507, 512 (11th Cir. 1990) (quoting H.R. 1609, 94th Cong. § 2 (1976)). Even in the absence of specific objections, there is no requirement that a district judge review factual findings *de novo*, <u>Garvey v. Vaughn</u>, 993 F.2d 776, 779 n.9 (11th Cir. 1993), and the court may accept, reject or modify, in whole or in part, the findings and recommendations. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C). The district judge reviews legal conclusions *de novo*, even in the absence of an objection. <u>See Cooper-Houston v.</u> <u>Southern Ry.</u>, 37 F.3d 603, 604 (11th Cir. 1994); <u>Castro Bobadilla</u> <u>v. Reno</u>, 826 F. Supp. 1428, 1431-32 (S.D. Fla. 1993), <u>aff'd</u>, 28 F.3d 116 (11th Cir. 1994) (Table).

After conducting an independent examination of the file and upon due consideration of the leave granted to amend the complaint, the Amended Complaint (Doc. #7), the Report and Recommendation, and plaintiff's Objections, the Court accepts the Report and Recommendation of the magistrate judge and overrules the objections.

Accordingly, it is now

ORDERED:

1. The Report and Recommendation (Doc. #10) is hereby **adopted** and the findings incorporated herein. The objections thereto are overruled.

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2. Plaintiff's request to proceed *in forma pauperis* is **DENIED** and the case is dismissed without prejudice for failure to state a claim.

3. The Clerk shall enter judgment accordingly, terminate all deadlines and motions as moot, and close the file.

DONE AND ORDERED at Fort Myers, Florida, this <u>11th</u> day of May, 2009.

JOHN E. STEELE United States District Judge

Copies: Hon. Sheri Polster Chappell United States Magistrate Judge

Counsel of Record Unrepresented parties