IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA

No. 139A02

FILED: 4 OCTOBER 2002

TINA KELLY

v.

CARTERET COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, DAVID LENKER, JR., RENEE NEWMAN, JOHN WELMERS

Appeal pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 7A-30(2) from the decision of a divided panel of the Court of Appeals, 149 N.C. App. 188, 560 S.E.2d 390 (2002), dismissing plaintiff's appeal from an order entered 19 January 2001 by Alford, J., in Superior Court, Carteret County. Heard in the Supreme Court 11 September 2002.

Ralph T. Bryant, Jr., P.A., by Ralph T. Bryant, Jr., for plaintiff-appellant.

Kirkman, Whitford & Brady, P.A., by Neil B. Whitford, for defendant-appellees.

Patterson, Harkavy & Lawrence, L.L.P., by Ann Groninger, on behalf of the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, amicus curiae.

Tharrington Smith, L.L.P., by Ann Majestic and Lisa Lukasik, on behalf of the North Carolina School Boards Association; and the North Carolina School Boards Association, by Allison B. Schafer, General Counsel, amicus curiae.

PER CURIAM.

AFFIRMED.