STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

STATE OF GEORGIA

FRIENDS OF CAMPBELL HIGH	:	
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,	:	
	:	
Appellant,	:	
	:	CASE NO. 1989-16
	:	
V.	:	
	:	DECISION
COBB COUNTY	:	
BOARD OF EDUCATION,	:	
	:	
Appellee.	:	

This is an appeal by the Friends of Campbell High School Committee ("Appellant") from a decision by the Cobb County Board of Education ("Local Board") to merge three high schools into two high schools and to change the name of Campbell High School to Smyrna High School. Because this is an administrative decision by the Local Board, the appeal is dismissed.

During the spring of 1989, the Local Board conducted a series of public meetings to consider closing Wills High School and to merge its students with Campbell High School. The Local Board then decided to close Wills High School and to transfer the Wills' students to Campbell High School and Osborne High School. The Local Board then decided to rename Campbell High School to Smyrna High School.

Appellant filed this appeal to the State Board of Education and alleges that the Local Board: failed to give notice to the public that it was going to change the name of Campbell High School; failed to meet its moral, legal, and ethical obligations to the seller of the Campbell High School property; discriminated against the students of Campbell High School and Osborne High School; misused tax dollars, and violated Appellant's due process rights. The Local Board has moved to dismiss the appeal because the State Board of Education does not have jurisdiction since a hearing has not been conducted.

O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1160 provides that appeals can be heard by the State Board of Education from decisions made by local boards of education on contested issues of school law after a hearing by the local board. A local board decision regarding site selection, assignment of students, or the naming of schools, is an administrative decision and does not involve the interpretation of school law. <u>See, Murray Parks. et al.</u> <u>v. Meriwether Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1987-1 (Ga. SBE 1987); <u>Concerned Citizens Against School Site v. Cobb Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty. Bd. of Educ.</u>, Case No. 1985-8 (Ga. SBE 1985); <u>Colegrove v. Clarke Cnty.</u>]

In the instant case, Appellant has not shown that the decision to close Wells High School and to rename Campbell High School is anything other than a policy or administrative decision. The Local Board did not conduct any quasi-judicial hearings; it conducted meetings and obtained citizen input concerning the issues. These meetings are insufficient to provide the State Board of Education with jurisdiction under O.C.G.A. § 20-2-1160.

Since the State Board of Education lacks jurisdiction in this matter, the appeal is hereby DISMISSED.

This 10th day of August, 1989.

John M. Taylor Vice Chairman For Appeals