

Elizabeth Forward school director gets probation for voting illegally in Westmoreland County



RICH CHOLODOFSKY | Wednesday, November 29, 2017 9:51 p.m.

An Allegheny County school board member will serve one year on probation for voting illegally in Westmoreland County.

Richard Cummings Jr., 34, who had been appointed this year to serve on the Elizabeth Forward School Board, was charged in August with one misdemeanor count of illegal voting.

According to court records, although Cummings moved to Elizabeth Township, Allegheny County, in 2009, he continued to vote through the 2016 general election at his former North Huntingdon precinct in Westmoreland County.

Westmoreland County Detective Frank Galilei in court documents said Cummings attempted to vote in the primary at a precinct in Elizabeth Township but was turned away. Elections officials in Westmoreland County previously said Cummings did not vote in the primary.

Cummings, a registered Republican, finished fourth in the primary and this month's general election to secure a new term on the school board.

In court Wednesday, Cummings entered the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition program for first-time, nonviolent offenders. Westmoreland County Common Pleas Court Judge Meagan Bilik-DeFazio sentenced Cummings to probation.

Neither Cummings nor his lawyer could be reached for comment.

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