

Office of School Board Attorney
Johnny Brown, Board Attorney

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT OF DENISE WALLACE, AS ASSISTANT BOARD ATTORNEY

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES, MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Previously on March 25, 2002, the School Board was advised that the Board Attorney's Office had two open positions created by the resignations of Ms. Twila H. Payne and Mr. Timothy A. Pease. The Board was advised that because of the financial shortfall, these positions were not filled, but that due to the large workload and volume of litigation, both positions needed to be filled. Subsequently, last month because of the resignation of another assistant board attorney, Mr. John Greco, Ms. McNichols was hired. At this time, we are requesting authority to hire an attorney to fill the position of Mr. Timothy A. Pease. Mr. Pease had been handling a variety of cases including administrative hearings, state and federal cases.

The Board Attorney recommends the employment of Denise Wallace. Ms. Wallace graduated from Southern University Law Center in Louisiana in 1990. She worked as an Associate for several years at the law firm of Steel Hector and Davis in Miami, and is now employed as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Florida's Office of the Attorney General. Her resume is being forwarded to School Board members under separate cover. I anticipate that Ms. Wallace will be a valuable addition to the Board Attorney's Office.

Ms. Wallace is recommended for employment effective September 13, 2002, for the period through June 30, 2003, at an annual salary of \$80,000.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve and authorize the execution of an employment agreement with Denise Wallace as Assistant Board Attorney for the period September 13, 2002 through June 30, 2003, at an annual salary of \$80,000.