

Office of Human Resources
Paul M. Cholak, Chief Personnel Officer

**SUBJECT: DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEE, JOSEPH P. CONTE
FROM TEACHING POSITION**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1012.33(4)(b), Florida Statutes, the Superintendent submits this recommendation to dismiss Mr. Joseph P. Conte at the end of the school year for good and sufficient reasons based on the charges listed below:

1. Mr. Conte has previously admitted that he has engaged in inappropriate sexual and criminal conduct involving minors;
2. Mr. Conte has a pattern of arrests for the same type of inappropriate sexual conduct (lewd and lascivious act in the presence of a minor): February 1970 (Tallahassee); November 1984 (Miramar); August 1987; October 1989; and most recently, in February 2005;
3. Mr. Conte's pattern of arrests and recent and pending felony charges of lewd and lascivious conduct have caused notoriety that discredited him as a teacher and the School District;
4. Mr. Conte has failed to refrain from the inappropriate behavior as evidenced by the February 2005 arrest and pending felony charges;
5. Because the inappropriate sexual conduct involves sexual conduct with minors, the school district would be exposed to a substantially high risk of liability for potential breach of its duty to the parents and students of this community if Mr. Conte were allowed to continue his employment in a job position that requires contact with minor students.

The employee has the right to appeal the School Board's Final Order to the Third District Court of Appeal, pursuant to Section 120.68, Florida Statutes, within 30 days of the Board's action.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, dismiss Mr. Joseph P. Conte from his teaching position with Miami-Dade County Public Schools for good and sufficient reasons pursuant to Section 1012.33(4)(b) Florida Statutes.

PMC:mtr