

Office of School Board Attorney
JulieAnn Rico, Board Attorney

**SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
AUTHORIZE THE FILING OF A LAWSUIT AGAINST HARPER
PARTNERS THE ARCHITECTURE FIRM ON CARLOS FINLAY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR EXCESSIVE ERRORS AND
OMISSIONS**

COMMITTEE: FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION REFORM

Harper Partners was the architect/engineering firm ("A/E") on the Carlos Finlay Elementary School. By this legal action, the District will be seeking to recover approximately \$450,000.00 in excess costs on the project as a result of the errors and omissions of the A/E.

The statute of limitations is due to expire in early September, 2006 and the A/E has refused to enter into a tolling agreement. When filed, the District will be represented by the Board Attorney's office rather than outside counsel.

A copy of the Complaint in this matter will be made available prior to the August 2, 2006, School Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorize the filing of a lawsuit against the Architecture Firm, Harper Partners, for excessive errors and omissions at Carlos Finlay Elementary School.

SLS/pyc