Office of Superintendent of Schools Board Meeting of October 17, 2007

Office of School Board Attorney JulieAnn Rico, Board Attorney

SUBJECT: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA v. NESTOR VARONA - DOAH CASE NO. 06-1072

On, March 15, 2006, the School Board suspended Nestor Varona and initiated dismissal proceedings against him for just cause, including, but not limited to misconduct in office and violation of School Board Rules 6Gx13- 4A-1.21, Responsibilities and Duties; and 6Gx13- 4A-1.213, Code of Ethics, in accordance with sections 1001.32(2), 1012.22(1)(f), 1012.32(1), 1012.33, and 447.209, Florida Statutes (2006) and the United Teachers of Dade Contract. A hearing was requested and held on October 19, 2006 before Administrative Law Judge Patricia Hart via video conference in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

By Recommended Order entered June 15, 2007, the Administrative Law Judge recommended that the School Board enter a final order terminating Nestor Varona's employment.

Exceptions to the Recommended Order have been filed on behalf of the Respondent. Those exceptions, along with the Recommended Order and a complete record of the case, have been forwarded to the School Board members under separate cover. The exceptions challenge the penalty and recommended termination. The exceptions would have the Board reject the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order and thereby reinstate Respondent to his position as a teacher.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida take one of the following actions in the case of <u>The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida v. Nestor Varona</u> - DOAH Case No. 06-1072:

- (1) Adopt the Recommended Order of the Administrative Law Judge in its entirety as its Final Order; or
- (2) Adopt the Exceptions to the Recommended Order filed on behalf of the Respondent and enter a Final Order consistent with those Exceptions.