

Office of School Board Attorney  
Walter J. Harvey, School Board Attorney

**SUBJECT: MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD v. VERNARD M. WHITLEY,  
DOAH Case No. 19-6569**

On November 20, 2019, the School Board took action to suspend Respondent, Vernard M. Whitley, without pay and initiated dismissal proceedings against him for just cause, including but not limited to gross insubordination; and misconduct in office and violation of School Board Policies 4210, *Standards of Ethical Conduct*, 4210.01, *Code of Ethics*, and 4213, *Student Supervision and Welfare*, in accordance with §§ 1001.32(2), 1012.22(1)(f), 1012.32; 1012.40, 435.04, 435.06, 447.209, Fla. Stat.; and State Board Rules 6A-5.056 and 6A-10.081, FAC. Respondent timely requested an administrative hearing, which was held on June 25, 2020 before Administrative Law Judge June C. McKinney of the Division of Administrative Hearings (“DOAH”).

The Administrative Law Judge issued her Recommended Order on October 29, 2020. The Judge recommended that the School Board enter a Final Order terminating Respondent’s employment.

We recommend that the School Board accept the Recommended Order as the School Board’s Final Order. A copy of the Recommended Order is being furnished to the Board under separate cover with a copy of the proposed Final Order for the Board’s consideration.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida adopt the Recommended Order of the Administrative Law Judge in its entirety as its Final Order in the case of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida v. Vernard M. Whitley, DOAH Case No. 19-6569, terminating Respondent’s employment with the School Board.