

Office of Professional Standards
Maria Teresa Rojas, Assistant Superintendent

**SUBJECT: RECOMMENDED SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY AND INITIATE
DISMISSAL PROCEEDINGS OF EMPLOYEE PENDING APPEAL
PATRICIA M. VAN HORN - SCHOOL BUS DRIVER
SOUTHWEST TRANSPORTATION CENTER**

**LINK TO DISTRICT
STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS OF INSTRUCTION
AND EFFICIENCY OF OPERATIONS**

On May 8, 2009, the following letter was sent to Ms. Patricia M. Van Horn:

This is to notify you that the Superintendent of Schools will be recommending to The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, at its scheduled meeting of May 20, 2009, that the School Board suspend you without pay and initiate dismissal proceedings against you from your current position as School Bus Driver at Southwest Transportation Center, effective at the close of the workday, May 20, 2009, for just cause, including, but not limited to: failure to maintain a valid Commercial Drivers License; violation of School Board Rules 6Gx13- 3E-1.10, Transportation--Specific Procedures, 6Gx13- 4A-1.21, Responsibilities and Duties; and violation of Section 8.6 of the Safe Driver Plan. This action is taken in accordance with Sections 1001.32(2), 1012.22(1)(f), 1012.40, and 447.209, Florida Statutes; and Articles II and XI of the **Contract between the Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)**.

If you wish to contest your suspension and dismissal, you must request in writing within 20 calendar days of notice of the Board action, a hearing or grievance/arbitration proceeding. The grievance/arbitration proceeding is regulated by Articles VII and XI of the AFSCME Contract. Your selection of one appeal method waives the right to select the other appeal method in the future. If you select arbitration, you must also notify AFSCME of your selection and obtain AFSCME's written concurrence.

If the School Board accepts (or approves) the Superintendent's recommendation, you will be notified of the School Board's action.

RECOMMENDED: That effective May 20, 2009, at the close of the workday, the School Board suspend without pay and initiate dismissal proceedings against Ms. Patricia M. Van Horn, School Bus Driver at Southwest Transportation Center, pending the outcome of a hearing, if requested.

MTR