

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

**SUBJECT: PROVISION OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS IN THE CASE OF Rhonda Goodman v. Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Alberto Carvalho, in his official capacity as Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Circuit Court Case No. 11-37229 CA 42**

This lawsuit was served on both the School Board and on Mr. Alberto Carvalho, in his capacity as Superintendent of Schools, on November 18, 2011. The Plaintiff alleges that school district violated Florida's Public Records Act, Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes, by taking over thirty days to produce the requested public records and that records that were ultimately released were allegedly unlawfully redacted. We have reviewed Plaintiff's Complaint and the allegations contained therein and believe that it lacks merit.

In accordance with School Board Policies 6900, *Legal Services for Employees of the Board*, and 6905, *Defense and Indemnification of Board Members and Superintendent*, along with the authority vested under § 1012.26 Fla. Stat. (2011), we are requesting that the School Board authorize the provision of legal representation for Superintendent, who is individually named as a Defendant in this matter. The Superintendent will be represented by counsel from the School Board Attorney's office. In the interim, the Board Attorney's office will file the necessary documents with the Circuit Court to protect the Defendants' legal interests.

**RECOMMENDED:** That the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorizes the Office of the School Board Attorney to provide or secure legal representation for the defense of the Superintendent of Schools who is an individually named defendant in the matter known as *Rhonda Goodman v. Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Alberto Carvalho, Circuit Court Case No. 11-37229 CA 42*.