

Office of Superintendent of Schools
Board Meeting of June 13, 2012

May 31, 2012

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

**SUBJECT: MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD v. DIXIE CORTEZ, DOAH
Case No. Case No. 12-0492**

On January 18, 2012, the School Board took action to suspend without pay and initiate dismissal proceedings against Respondent Dixie Cortez, a Teacher, for just cause, including but not limited to, misconduct in office and violation of School Board Policies 3210, Standards of Ethical Conduct, 3210.01, Code of Ethics, and 3121, Conditions of Employment and Reemployment of Instructional Staff, in accordance with §§ 1022.22(1)(f), 1012.33(1)(a) and (6)(a), and 447.209, Florida Statutes, and State Board of Education Rules 6B-4.009(4), Florida Administrative Code. Following discovery, the parties reached a settlement agreement whereby Ms. Cortez agrees to remain in her current suspension status until her reinstatement to a comparable position during the next academic term, without back pay.

The Administrative Staff and the School Board Attorney's Office concur with the settlement of this matter as being in the best interest of the School Board.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the Settlement Agreement in the case of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida v. Dixie Cortez, DOAH Case No. 12-0492 suspending Respondent without pay equal to time already served and reinstating her to a comparable position without back pay.