

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

SUBJECT: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA v. ISABEL DIAZ-ALMARAZ, DOAH Case No. 12-3630

On September 5, 2012, the School Board took action to suspend without pay and initiate dismissal proceedings against Isabel Diaz-Almaraz (Respondent), a teacher with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, for just cause including, but not limited to, Misconduct in Office, Immorality, and violation of School Board Policies 3210, *Standards of Ethical Conduct*, 3210.01 *Code of Ethics*, 3213 *Student Supervision and Welfare*. Respondent timely requested an administrative hearing. The final hearing was held on May 24, 2013, before Administrative Law Judge F. Scott Boyd.

By Recommended Order entered on July 30, 2013, the Administrative Law Judge recommended that the School Board enter a Final Order suspending Respondent without pay for a period of 180 days.

Exceptions to the Recommended Order were timely filed by the Superintendent. Those exceptions, along with the Recommended Order, the Respondent's Response to the Superintendent's Exceptions and a complete record of the case, will be forwarded to the School Board members under separate cover. The Exceptions seek to have the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order rejected and that Respondent's dismissal from employment be sustained.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida take one of the following actions in the case of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida v. Isabel Diaz-Almaraz, DOAH Case No. 12-3630:

- (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 by the Superintendent and enter a Final Order consistent with those Exceptions