

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

SUBJECT: MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD v. GEORGETTE A. LUCAS - DOAH Case No. 20-0433TTS

On January 15, 2020, the School Board took action to suspend Respondent, Georgette A. Lucas without pay and initiate dismissal proceedings for just cause, including, but not limited to, misconduct in office; and violation of School Board Policies 3210, Standards of Ethical Conduct; 3210; 3210.01, Code of Ethics; and 3213, Student Supervision and Welfare, in accordance with §§ 1001.32(2), 1012.22(1)(f), 1012.33; 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 May 29, 2020 before Administrative Law (“ALJ”) Judge Robert S. Cohen of the Division of Administrative Hearings (“DOAH”).

The Administrative Law Judge issued his Recommended Order on December 4, 2020. The ALJ recommended that the School Board enter a Final Order suspending Respondent for ten days without pay and awarding her back pay from the date her employment was terminated, except for the ten days of suspension.

Subsequent to the DOAH hearing, Respondent resigned from employment effective August 19, 2020. We recommend The School Board accept the resignation of Respondent and issue backpay to Respondent from January 15, 2020, to June 4, 2020, minus the ten (10) workday suspension, which was sustained by the ALJ. 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 accept Respondent’s resignation from further employment with the school district effective as of August 19, 2020, and adopt the Recommended Order of the Administrative Law Judge in its entirety as its Final Order in the case of Miami-Dade County, School Board v. Georgette A. Lucas, DOAH Case No. 20-0433TTS, suspending Respondent for ten days without pay and awarding her back pay from the date her employment was terminated until the date of her resignation, except for the ten (10) days of suspension, as indicated in the Recommended Order.