

Office of Superintendent of Schools
Board Meeting of March 17, 2021

March 1, 2021

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

SUBJECT: MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD vs. SANDRA CARITHERS
DOAH Case No. 20-5418TTS

On December 9, 2020, the School Board took action to suspend Respondent, Ms. Sandra Carithers without pay for ten (10) workdays for just cause, including, but not limited to: misconduct in office; and violations of School Board Policies 3210, *Standards of Ethical Conduct* and 3210.01, *Code of Ethics* in accordance with §§ 1001.32(2), 1012.22(1)(f), 1012.33; 447.209, Florida Statutes and State Board Rules 6A-5.056 and 6A-10.081, FAC. Respondent timely requested an administrative hearing, which was scheduled for February 19, 2021, before Administrative Law (“ALJ”) Judge Mary Li Creasy of the Division of Administrative Hearings (“DOAH”).

Prior to the administrative hearing, the parties were able to agree on a proposed settlement agreement, which would have Respondent serve a three (3) day suspension without pay. In return, Respondent would be issued back-pay for the remaining seven (7) days of her original suspension.

We recommend that the School Board accept the proposed settlement agreement. Acceptance of the proposed Settlement Agreement will obviate the need for further litigation in this matter and is in the best interests of the School Board. Administration is in agreement with the disposition of this matter in the manner indicated herein. A copy of the settlement agreement is being furnished to the Board under separate cover for the Board’s consideration.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida accept the proposed settlement agreement in the case known as Miami-Dade County School Board vs. Sandra Carithers, DOAH Case No. 20-5418TTS, suspending the Respondent for three (3) workdays without pay and issuing her backpay for seven (7) workdays.

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