

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 v. BLANCA L. GONZALEZ - DOAH Case No. 20-4682TTS

On September 9, 2020, the School Board took action to suspend Respondent, Blanca Gonzalez without pay for just cause, including but not limited to misconduct in office; violation of School Board Policies 4210, *Standards of Ethical Conduct*, 4210.01, *Code of Ethics*, and 4213, *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 December 17, 2020, before Administrative Law (“ALJ”) Judge June C. McKinney of the Division of Administrative Hearings (“DOAH”).

The Administrative Law Judge issued a Recommended Order on January 23, 2021. While the ALJ found that the evidence presented proved that there was just cause for discipline, the ALJ recommended that the School Board enter a Final Order issuing a reprimand to Respondent and awarding her back pay for five (5) workdays, the number of days of her suspension.

We recommend The School Board accept the ALJ’s recommendation, issue a reprimand to Respondent for Misconduct in Office, and issue her back pay for five workdays. Administration is in agreement with this recommendation. A copy of the Recommended Order is being furnished to the Board under separate cover along with a copy of the proposed Final Order for the Board’s consideration.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida 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. Blanca L. Gonzalez, DOAH Case No. 20-4682TTS, issuing Respondent a reprimand and awarding her back pay for five (5) workdays.

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