

Office of the General Counsel  
Walter J. Harvey, General Counsel

**SUBJECT:           PROVISION OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR THE FOLLOWING MATTER: Beláxis Buil v. Miami Dade County Public Schools, Dr. Diana Lobeau, and George D. Pratt, United States District Court Case No. 1:26-cv-22838-CMA.**

On May 4, 2026, the School Board was served with the lawsuit in the case of *Beláxis Buil v. Miami Dade County Public Schools, Dr. Diana Lobeau, and George D. Pratt*. The Complaint filed by a former employee of the District, alleges, among other things, violations of the First Amendment's free speech clause brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, substantive and procedural due process claims under the Fourteenth Amendment and gender discrimination and harassment claims under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The acts alleged in the Complaint arose out of and in the course and scope of the performance of the individually-named former and current District employees' assigned duties and responsibilities.

In accordance with the District's established practice, the former and current District employees, who are individually-named as Defendants in this lawsuit, have formally requested that the School Board provide them with legal representation. Pursuant to School Board Policy 6900, *Legal Services for Employees of the Board*, and § 1012.26, Fla. Stat. (2025), the Office of the General Counsel requests that the School Board authorize the provision of legal representation for the former and current District employees. In the interim, the Office of the General Counsel will be filing the necessary documents with the Court to protect the employees' and the School Board's legal interests. Should—at any point in the litigation—the School Board's interests conflict with those of the employees, separate legal representation will be sought on the former and current employee's behalf.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Office of the General Counsel to provide or secure legal representation for the legal defense of the former and current School Board employees who are individually-named as Defendants in the case of Beláxis Buil v. Miami Dade County Public Schools, Dr. Diana Lobeau, and George D. Pratt, United States District Court Case No. 1:26-cv-22838-CMA.