

Office of the General Counsel
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SUBJECT: MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD v. VALLY J. BASTIEN
DOAH Case No. 26-0084TTS

On December 17, 2025, the School Board took action to suspend Respondent, Vally J. Bastien, without pay for ten (10) workdays for just cause, including but not limited to Misconduct in Office, Gross Insubordination, and violation of School Board Policies 3210, *Standards of Ethical Conduct*, 3210.01, *Code of Ethics*, and 3213, Student Supervision and Welfare in accordance with §§ 1001.32(2), 1012.22(1)(f), 1012.33 and 447.209, Fla. Stat and State Board Rules §6A-5.056 and 6A-10.081 F.A.C. The recommended disciplinary action resulted from Respondent's intentional and unnecessary use of physical contact with a student. Respondent timely requested an administrative hearing to contest her suspension.

An administrative hearing was held on April 10, 2026, before Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), John G. Van Laningham, of the Division of Administrative Hearings ("DOAH"). The ALJ issued his Recommended Order on July 8, 2026. In his Recommended Order, the ALJ found that there was just cause to impose discipline and recommended that the School Board enter a Final Order finding Respondent guilty of Misconduct in Office, but not guilty of Gross Insubordination and sustaining Respondent's suspension from employment, without pay, for ten (10) workdays.

We recommend that the School Board accept the Recommended Order as the School Board's Final Order. 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 The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida v. Vally J. Bastien, DOAH Case No. 26-0084TTS, finding Respondent guilty of Misconduct in Office, but not guilty of Gross Insubordination, and sustaining Respondent's suspension from employment, without pay, for ten (10) workdays.