



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

KENYETTA V. HAYWOOD
Director of Employee Relations

ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS
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Certified Mail #7006-0100-0000-3272-3900 & Regular U.S. Mail

May 7, 2007

Mason Blumenfeld
8782 Indian River Run
Boynton Beach, FL 33437

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY

Dear Mr. Blumenfeld:

Based upon substantial information presented to me, I must hereby inform you that I have clear and convincing evidence sufficient to warrant your suspension without pay from your position as a Teacher. I will recommend at the May 30, 2007 meeting of the School Board of Palm Beach County, Florida, that you be suspended without pay for ten (10) working days effective May 31, 2007 through June 13, 2007. In addition, you must complete Anger Management Training and complete TEAM Training.

On or about March 30, 2007, you became the subject of a Professional Standards investigation based upon the allegation that you used unnecessary physical force on a student and/or violated School Board Policy 1.013, Responsibilities of School District Personnel and/or Staff. At the conclusion of the investigation the allegation that you used unnecessary physical force on a student and/or violated School Board Policy 1.013, Responsibilities of School District Personnel and/or Staff was substantiated. Sufficient just cause exists for you to be disciplined pursuant to Sections 1012.22(1)(f) and 1012.27(5) Florida Statutes; Administrative Rules 6B-1.001 Code of Ethics of the Education Profession in Florida, 6B-1.006 Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida, and 6B-4.009 Criteria for Suspension and Dismissal; Palm Beach County School District Policies 1.013 and 3.27, as well as Administrative Directive 3.27; and Article II, Section M of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Palm Beach County Classroom Teachers Association and the School Board of Palm Beach County, for violations of the foregoing.

This action is taken in accordance with Sections 1012.22 and 1012.27, Florida Statutes. You have a choice of filing a grievance or requesting a hearing before the Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH). Failure to timely request an administrative hearing under section 120.68 Florida Statutes shall waive all rights to request a DOAH hearing on such matters and shall be subject only to appeal rights (under Section 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes).

Should you desire a hearing, a request must be made in writing within or prior to the fifteen (15) days stated in this letter, and addressed to Gerald A. Williams, Chief Counsel to the School Board, 3318 Forest Hill Boulevard, C-302, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406. If you decide to appeal a decision made by the School Board with respect to any matters considered at this meeting or hearing, you will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, you may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. You shall have the responsibility, at your own cost, to arrange for the transcript. You were previously advised that the investigative report concerning this matter and its contents are considered public record and will be released, upon request, minus any allowable exemptions, ten (10) days after the date of that Notification of Public Record correspondence.

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The May 30, 2007, Special Meeting will be held in the Board Room at 3300 Forest Hill Boulevard, West Palm Beach. The Board has set aside time prior to the meeting so that you or your representative may make a brief oral presentation relative to your suspension. The Board has allotted no more than three (3) minutes for you to make a statement. If you or your representative intends to speak before the School Board, please immediately notify Ms. Alicia Gent, Board Office at (561) 434-8139.

Sincerely,

Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D.
Superintendent

ACJ:AK:DD:KH:lcp

- c. Ann Killets, Chief Academic Officer
- Gerald A. Williams, Chief Counsel to the School Board
- Darron Davis, Chief of Human Resources
- Kenyetta Haywood, Director of Employee Relations
- Melinda Wong, Director, Human Resources Customer Relations (*Personnel File*)
- Sonia Hill, Senior Associate Counsel, Personnel
- Fran Peltz, Principal, Palm Beach Correction Facility
- Frances Stefter, Esq.,