

SUMMARY EXPLANATION AND BACKGROUND

Jennifer Jedlicka Austin (hereinafter “AUSTIN”) is an ESE Support Facilitator teacher at Tamarac Elementary School. On or about November 19, 2018, despite that she is not authorized to restrain students because she is not PCM trained, AUSTIN applied a non-PCM, take-down and prone restraint.

On or about November 19, 2018, Principal Roberta Ray (hereinafter “RAY”) went to her office to find AUSTIN and S.G. alone. S.G. was throwing and hitting AUSTIN. with objects. As RAY tried to talk to S.G., he started yelling, screaming, and throwing objects at both AUSTIN and RAY. Finally, AUSTIN told S.G. “[O]K. That’s enough”. AUSTIN turned S.G. around facing away from her, taking his wrists in each hand, placing him on his knees, and then into a prone position. As AUSTIN straddled S.G., she placed her fingers in a “U” shape over his wrists. RAY immediately directed AUSTIN to let S.G. go, stating “Jen, you have to let him up”. AUSTIN complied and released S.G. from the prone position.

AUSTIN then failed to exercise reasonable efforts to immediately notify the parent or guardian of S.G.’s restraint.

The Assistant General Counsel prepared the Administrative Complaint and provided notice to AUSTIN that a recommendation for her one (1) day suspension without pay will be presented to the School Board on October 2, 2019. The Administrative Complaint was served on AUSTIN on September 9, 2019, and she timely requested a hearing.

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