

SUMMARY EXPLANATION AND BACKGROUND

Micah Harrell (“HARRELL”) is currently employed as a guidance counselor at Piper High School. On or about January 25, 2016, Orange County Circuit Judge Julie H. O’Kane, in and for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, issued an arrest warrant for HARRELL for the felony crimes of: (1) Medicaid Provider Fraud; (2) Conspiracy to Commit Medicaid Fraud; (3) Organized Scheme to Defraud; and (4) Criminal Use of Personal Identification Information.

On or about April 6, 2017, the State of Florida filed a thirty-three (33) count Amended Information against HARRELL to include the felony charges of Organized Scheme to Defraud, Criminal Use of Personal Identification of Minors and Medicaid Fraud Against Minors.

On or about April 3, 2018, HARRELL pled nolo contendere to one count of Organized Fraud – a second degree felony punishable by up to fifteen (15) years in the Department of Corrections. As part of the plea agreement, adjudication was withheld and HARRELL was sentenced to one (1) year of Community Control, followed by a term of ten (10) years of probation. As part of his plea agreement with the State of Florida, HARRELL had the special conditions of no work which results in the billing of Medicaid and no access to the personal ID information of unrelated minors while on probation.

The Administrative Counsel prepared the Administrative Complaint and notice was provided to HARRELL that a recommendation for his termination will be presented to the School Board on June 9, 2020. The Administrative Complaint was served on HARRELL on May 21, 2020, and he timely requested a hearing.

Please take special note that, given the absence of dispute of material facts regarding these charges, the Superintendent recommends that the School Board exercise its right to conduct a direct hearing by the School Board within 60 days after receipt of the request for hearing.