8-23-02

STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD,

Petitioner,

VS.

AT

DOAH CASE NO: 02-0974

O: 02-0974
FLB-CW5

THADDEUS STARLING

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 25, 2002, the Superintendent of Schools for Pinellas County, Florida, recommended to the Pinellas County School Board that THADDEUS STARLING be dismissed from his employment for violations of School Board Policies 8.04 (4) and 8.25 (1)(a)(v) and (x), and the Code of Ethics and Principles of Professional Conduct of the Education Profession in Florida, and

WHEREAS, THADDEUS STARLING, by and through his attorney Mark Herdman, Esquire, timely requested a hearing, which hearing was conducted before Administrative Law Judge Fred L. Buckine, on May 17, 2002, and

WHEREAS, Administrative Law Judge Fred L. Buckine found that THADDEUS STARLING did violate Pinellas County School Board Policies 8.04 (4), and 8.25 (1) (x), by failing to report his arrest immediately to his supervisor, but did not find THADDEUS STARLING had committed the act of solicitation for prostitution as charged. WHEREAS, Judge Buckine ordered that THADDEUS STARLING be issued a written reprimand for his actions, have all other charges filed against him dismissed, and be reinstated to his position with back-pay and benefits, and

WHEREAS, this Board sitting as a quasi-judicial body, having reviewed the Petitioner's Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Supporting Memorandum, the Respondent's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Supporting Memorandum, the Transcript of the Hearing, the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order, and the Petitioner's Proposed Final Order, it is hereby

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, that the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order attached hereto is adopted as this Board's Final Order and incorporated herein. THADDEUS STARLING is hereby reprimanded by this Board for his failure to immediately report his arrest to his supervisor, and is reinstated in his position as a Teacher in Pinellas County Schools with back-pay and benefits. It is further

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, that THADDEUS STARLING is hereby notified of his right to appeal this Order to the Second District Court of Appeal by filing notice of the intent to do so upon the Clerk of the Court and the Clerk of the School Board within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

DATED:

September 24, 2002.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS

COUNTY, FLOREDA

Chairman

Attest:

Ex-officio Secretary