

STATE OF FLORIDA
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

LAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD,

Petitioner,

DOAH Case No: 19-006802TTS

vs.

TODD ERDMAN,

Respondent.

SCHOOL BOARD FINAL ORDER

Pursuant to notice, a final hearing was conducted on July 28 through 30, 2020 via the Zoom web-conference platform before the Division of Administrative Hearings Administrative Law Judge Robert J. Telfer III. The subject matter of the hearing was whether there was just cause to terminate Respondent Todd Erdman's professional service contract for the reasons specified in the Petitioner Lake County School Board's letter dated October 28, 2019.

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Judge Telfer issued a Recommended Order on November 6, 2020. Judge Telfer determined that the Petitioner did have just cause to discipline Respondent and recommended that the School Board enter a Final Order terminating Respondent's professional services contract. A copy of the Recommended Order is attached as Exhibit "A." The Recommended Order provided that "all parties have the right to submit written exceptions within 15 days from the date of this Recommended Order. Any exceptions to this Recommended Order should be filed with the agency that will issue the Final Order in this case."

II. RULING ON EXCEPTIONS

Respondent timely filed Exceptions to the Recommended Order on November 23, 2020. A copy of the Exceptions is attached as Exhibit "B." Petitioner filed a Response to the Exceptions on December 7, 2020. A copy of the Response to Exceptions is attached as Exhibit "C."

After review of both the Exceptions and the Response to Exceptions, the School Board hereby rejects Exception Number 1.

After review of both the Exceptions and the Response to Exceptions, the School Board hereby rejects Exception Number 2.

After review of both the Exceptions and the Response to Exceptions, the School Board hereby rejects Exception Number 3.

After review of both the Exceptions and the Response to Exceptions, the School Board hereby rejects Exception Number 4.

After review of both the Exceptions and the Response to Exceptions, the School Board hereby rejects Exception Number 5.

After review of both the Exceptions and the Response to Exceptions, the School Board hereby rejects Exception Number 6.

III. FINDINGS

Prior to entering this Final Order, the School Board had access to review the entire record, including all exhibits presented at the final hearing, transcripts of the final hearing, the Recommended Order, and pleadings filed with the Division of Administrative Hearings.

Pursuant to Florida Statutes § 120.57, the School Board adopts the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained in the Recommended Order attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

IV. FINAL RULING

Based on the foregoing, the School Board hereby accepts the determination of the Administrative Law Judge and hereby terminates Respondent Todd Erdman's employment with Lake County Schools effective November 18, 2019.

DONE AND ADOPTED by the School Board of Lake County, Florida this 14th day of December, 2020.

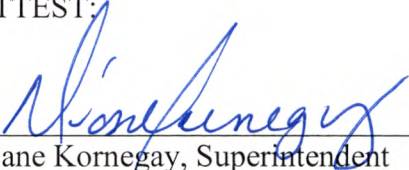
**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LAKE
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By:



William J. Mathias, Chair

ATTEST:



Diane Kornegay, Superintendent

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail, email, or hand delivery to the following parties this 15th day of December, 2020:

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By: Natalie Challenger
**NATALIE CHALLENGER, CLERK TO
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA**
201 West Burleigh Boulevard
Tavares, Florida 32778

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO APPEAL

The parties are hereby advised that this is a final agency order and a party adversely affected may seek judicial review of this order pursuant to Florida Statutes § 120.68. To initiate judicial review under Florida Statutes § 120.68, a party seeking to appeal this order must file a copy of their notice of appeal on or before thirty (30) days from the date of this order in accordance with the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.