

J.K. Haynes LDF

From: Arlene Guerin [Arlene.Guerin@tangischools.org]
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 9:09 AM
To: Mark Kolwe
Cc: Charlie Patin; Ashley E. Sandage; Lynell Higgenbotham; nitsuaii@aol.com; jklegal777@aol.com; Ann Smith; Daniel Ridgel; Ronald Genco
Subject: RE: Hammond Hogh Principal

Mr. Kolwe.

I have some serious concerns as to whether the court order is being followed. The order does say a more qualified applicant. I have received a complaint from Ms. Johson where she indicates that she is more qualified than Mr. Troxclair. If you are basing your recommendation on anything more than that, then it is a violation of the court order and there is no time limit for raising this issue.

In addition, I have been informed that another interview was conducted by you, Mr. Jackson, Melissa Stilley and Tommy Belevia of the applicants and that this interview is the basis for your decision. Dr. Higgenbotham was not included in this interview. If this is true, then this raises another set of concerns.

Included also is an allegation that the system tried to use undue influence to get Ms. Johnson to withdraw her application or not to take the job as principal and that this was done by high ranking school personnel as well as in a meeting with you and other high ranking school personnel.

I will of course investigate Ms. Johnson's complaint. I was hoping to have that opportunity prior to your selection of a principal to avoid the potential of another Aiden Foster situation. However, it is of course your choice if you wish to have this matter investigated by me or if you wish to have the entire matter resolved before the courts.

My request was to attempt to seek a resolution prior to the court involvement if possible but if you choose not to do so, then we can go that route as well.

Since it seems this will be a court matter, I will be requesting the qualifications of both Ms. Johnson and Ms. Troxclair and will probably be interviewing both of your "interview committees" to determine what "qualifications" Mr. Troxclair had that would make him more qualified candidate than Ms. Johnson. After talking with all parties, I will then submit my report to you, the plainiff's attorneys and the court.

I am sorry that you rebuffed my efforts to investigate this matter prior to a recommendation to the personnel committee and the hiring by the board. But I am sure that you have polled the board and have their support in making the decision to proceed with court action prior to trying to resolve this matter without resorting to the courts.

Arlene K. Guerin
Court Compliance Officer