



A Union of Education, Technical Support, Charter School and Education Support Professionals

Broward Teachers Union

Engaging & Empowering Educators

January 28, 2021

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Robert W. Runcie
Superintendent, Broward County Public Schools
600 SE Third Ave
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301

**RE: Request for Investigation of Ms. Barbara Myrick –
Spying on Teachers / Cover-up of District Involvement**

Dear Mr. Runcie:

I write this letter as serious allegations have arisen over General Counsel Barbara Myrick's role in Facebook spying on medically at-risk teachers. If true, these allegations are a serious breach of the law, of social media platform protocols, and of her ethical duties.

During the BTU-District arbitration over the denial of remote working assignments to at-risk educators, the District's lawyers placed on the public record—in front of hundreds of attendees—screenshots of Facebook posts and photographs of certain teachers. Your lawyers represented that these reportedly private Facebook screenshots were of educators who suffered from medical conditions and yet were out in the public (often outdoors and with masks). It was a jaded attempt to argue that these educators were therefore not in need of medical accommodations. These pictures have been circulated by print and electronic media.

Who thought it was right to go on their Facebook pages? Who granted access to entry on these reportedly private pages? Who gave permission to publicly provide their names? (Only one teacher in the pictures had voluntarily disclosed her CDC condition of pregnancy.)

On top of that breach, there was a cover-up. When a reporter inquired as to who performed this task, the blame was conveniently put on your outside counsel. *See* Attachment 1. **This appears to be untrue based on Ms. Myrick's memo of January 20, 2021, which indicates the pictures were sent by her.** *See* Attachment 2. The memo shows that General Counsel Myrick at least transmitted the documents. She likely coordinated the effort as well. This is outrageous conduct by a public officer that must be investigated.

I believe that Counsel Myrick is so blinded by her contempt for teachers, for BTU, and even for me, that she has lost her compass! Her bitterness is guiding your District in regrettable ways.

We ask that you conduct an investigation into Ms. Myrick's actions and, in doing so, that you take note of the pictures that Ms. Myrick transmitted. One is of a pregnant teacher at an outdoor zoo with her 2-year-old child—something the CDC allows. This is an intrusion into her personal family moment that has now been plastered all over the media. Further, there were family pictures of a teacher taken pre-pandemic that were misrepresented as capturing events post-pandemic. The fact that the District paraded and leveraged teachers' personal photographs is indefensible.

It speaks volumes that your General Counsel would shepherd such unconscionable behavior. The BTU workforce is shocked that you would allow this to happen. How can educators trust their employer anymore?

We respectfully ask you to take appropriate action. In the meantime, BTU is exploring other avenues as well.

Sincerely,



Anna Fusco
BTU President

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Rosalind Osgood
Laurie Rich Levinson
Donna P. Korn
Debra Hixon
Ann Murray
Patricia Good
Sarah Leonardi
Lori Alhadeff
Nora Rupert



BCPS Office of Communications

5:42 PM

To You, Kathy Koch, Kaitlin R. Berry, +3

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Caution: External Sender

Scott,

The research was conducted by the firm Gray Robinson.
None of the three analysts mentioned had a role.

BCPS Office of Communications

[600 S.E. Third Ave.](#)

[Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301](#)

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Succeed in Tomorrow's World**


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BARBARA J. MYRICK
GENERAL COUNSEL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Anastasia Protopapadakis, Esq
Stephanie Marchman, Esq

FROM: Barbara J. Myrick, General Counsel 

DATE: January 20, 2021

SUBJECT: Spreadsheets for Accommodations

Please review Spreadsheets as you review this memo and picture.

Fall Semester Approved Remote Work Data Excel Spreadsheet

Document 1: Property Record for [REDACTED] has homesteaded property in Lake County Florida (Line 153 on Spreadsheet)

Document 2: Facebook pictures of [REDACTED] (Line 411 on Spreadsheet)

Document 3: Facebook pictures of [REDACTED] (Line 422 on Spreadsheet)

Document 4: Facebook pictures of [REDACTED] at daughter's destination wedding 10-23-20 (Line 436 on Spreadsheet)

Document 5: Facebook pictures of [REDACTED] 12-29-20 (Line 438 on Spreadsheet)

Document 6: Facebook pictures of [REDACTED] (Line 1100 on Spreadsheet)

Document 7: Facebook pictures of [REDACTED] (Line 1382 on Spreadsheet)

Spring Semester Approved Remote Work Excel Spreadsheet

[REDACTED] (Line 175 on Spreadsheet)

[REDACTED] (Line 320 on Spreadsheet)

Document 8: Pictures of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who request accommodations in fall and were denied.