



MMD Legal Insider

McLocklin, Murphy & Dishman, LLP

www.cslap.org

2008 Year in Review and Update

Thank you once again for the opportunity to work with you and your staff this past school year. Whether we have been of service to you as general counsel, provided training to members of your administrative team during an in-service, or had the pleasure of hosting some of your colleagues at one of our conferences through the Center for School Law & Policy, Inc. (www.cslap.org), it has been our pleasure and privilege to serve the needs of so many Georgia school districts and school administrators this past school year.

This has been another wonderful season in the life of our firm. In addition to continuing to serve a half-dozen Georgia school boards as general counsel, we have also enjoyed the opportunity to provide specialized training to an additional dozen Georgia school systems all across this State, including some of our largest systems in Metropolitan Atlanta. Last Spring, we successfully defended a Georgia school district in an employment discrimination claim before the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Employment law in the school setting continues to be a major focus of our practice. We have also been pleased to continue to serve as General Counsel to the Georgia Association of School Business Officials (GASBO), and to present once again at their annual conference in Augusta. This year, I was also excited to present at the Georgia Council of Administrators in Special Education in Savannah on various aspects of discipline involving disabled students.

Currently, Mike Dishman and I are putting the finishing touches on our third book, [A Guide to Education Records](#) (Rowman & Littlefield) which should be released in the Summer of 2009. Our first publication [The Fair Labor Standards Act in American Schools: A Guide for School Officials](#) (2007) led to many presentations throughout Georgia and the Southeast, and we are convinced that the depth of understanding gained through research and writing is a tremendous benefit to our firm and our clients. Our second book, [The American Association of School Personnel Administrators Family & Medical Leave Act Compliance Manual](#), also resulted in many policy reviews and trainings, including the annual conference of the Southern Association of School Business Officials in Orlando. In addition, we conducted number of webinars for the American Association of School Personnel Administrators (www.aaspa.org). Most recently, I have signed a contract to produce a fourth book dealing with Discipline and the Special Education Students which should be available by Winter of 2010.

In addition to our education law practice and publications, we have also continued to expand the offerings of the Center for School Law & Policy. We consistently offer trainings on student rights and discipline, and have also developed programs addressing the legal aspects of Response to Intervention, English

Language Learners, and Student Health Services. On the employment law side, we have trained many administrators on teacher evaluation and nonrenewal, as well as the FMLA, FLSA and ADA. In response to current economic conditions, we will also introduced a program this Spring focused upon the legal aspects of Reduction in Force plans, particularly as they relate to Age Discrimination litigation. Our second annual Autism Law and Practice Seminar is scheduled for this February 18 & 19th at Macon State College.

Finally, we have recently been honored to be named General Counsel to the Georgia Consortium for Adequate School Funding, a cause in which we deeply believe. As in so many of our presentations and publications, we have been blessed to combine our service to Georgia public schools with our scholarly interests and passionate pursuits. I personally consider myself extremely lucky to be able to labor on behalf of clients and in a field which I so deeply enjoy. Please accept my most sincere thank you and appreciation for the opportunity to do so this past year.

Best wishes,

Dan Murphy, Partner

McLocklin, Murphy & Dishman, LLP

President & Founder

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SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING PRESENTATION BY THE CENTER FOR SCHOOL LAW & POLICY!

- “New FMLA Rules & the Amended ADA” on January 31, 2009 at AASPA National Bootcamp Scottsdale, Arizona (see www.aaspa.org).
- “Legal and Practical Aspects of Autism” on February 18th & 19th at Macon State College.
- “Discipline and the Disabled Student” on February 26th at CSRA Resa in Dearing.
- “The New Family & Medical Leave Regulations and the Amended Americans with Disabilities Act” on March 3rd (Macon) and March 5th (Winder).
- “Reduction in Force and Age Discrimination: How to avoid lawsuits or, if you can’t do that, make sure to win!” March 26th at Walton County BOE (Monroe).
- Please see www.cslap.org for additional program and registration information!

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