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Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran Sides with Mason Classical Academy in Dispute with Collier County Public Schools

Tallahassee, Fla., August 1, 2019 - Providing Florida's parents and their children with choices in public education is a top priority for Commissioner Corcoran. Some of Florida's highest performing schools are public charter schools and Mason Classical Academy is leading the way in Collier County. Their hard work and commitment to excellence has earned them the top spot in the county and top 2% of all public schools in the State of Florida. "I am extremely proud of the work our public charter school leaders are doing, especially at high-performing charter schools like Mason Classical Academy", said Corcoran.

Like any other ambitious public charter school, Mason Classical Academy has experienced some growing pains. However, "The Collier County School District's investigation into Mason Classical Academy was improper and the District's overreaching actions have been lawless. "I hope the Collier County School Board, the Superintendent and the District's General Counsel, Jon Fishbane, understand that the FDOE will not stand idly by as one of our highest performing public charter schools is targeted by a lawless bureaucracy", said Corcoran.

The Commissioner is pleased that Collier County Public Schools and Mason Classical Academy have reached an agreement on the issues related to the school's charter contract with the District. The FDOE will continue to monitor the relationship between Collier County Public Schools and Mason Classical Academy to ensure that our public charter schools are treated fairly and afforded due process.