

Personnel Management and Services
Nelson E. Diaz, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO IMPLEMENT A TEACHER POST TO POST EXCHANGE PROGRAM UNDER THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE OF SPAIN AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

At its meeting of June 18, 1997, Agenda Item C-1, the School Board approved the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS). A section of the MOU states that "M-DCPS and the Ministry will explore the feasibility of establishing a teacher post to post exchange program bringing teachers from Spain for the ultimate purpose of benefitting the students of M-DCPS..."

The Florida Department of Education established a collaborative teacher post to post exchange program through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain on July 14, 1997. Under the Florida Department of Education MOU, M-DCPS will provide, beginning with the 1999-2000 school year, up to three teachers to participate in the teacher post to post program at the elementary school level. Teachers remain employed by the school district. Therefore, the teachers' salaries will continue to be paid by the Board and all benefits and seniority will remain intact.

Teachers wishing to participate in the post to post exchange program must have three years of experience in teaching Spanish, a commitment to teach English in Spain, and must have the approval of the school district and their school principal. M-DCPS is not responsible for travel and living arrangements for post to post teachers. These are the responsibility of the teachers participating in the program. Selecting and matching of the applications will be made by representatives from M-DCPS and staff members of the Education Office of the Embassy of Spain.

The Florida Department of Education will process and issue the Exchange Visitor Teacher permits and certify the eligibility of the Spanish teachers for Teacher Certification in Florida.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the establishment of a teacher post to post exchange program under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain and the Florida Department of Education, beginning with the 1999-2000 school year.