

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS/AGENCIES TO PROVIDE COUNSELING SERVICES IN 20 PROGRAMS FOR EMOTIONALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$616,500, FROM JULY 1, 1999 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2000

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL: II - STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT/PREPARATION FOR POST SECONDARY EXPERIENCES

Authorization is requested to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for mental health professionals/agencies to provide counseling services in 20 programs for emotionally handicapped (EH) students. Miami-Dade County Public Schools has been providing counseling services in 20 programs for EH students through professional services contracts. These services include individual and group counseling, parent and/or teacher consultation, and record keeping.

Consultant contracts for the 20 programs, in 18 school sites, in an amount not to exceed \$616,500, will be developed to provide services from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000. A review of all contracts will take place prior to the end of the 1999-2000 fiscal year. Pending funding availability, School Board approval will be requested to extend contracts which have been satisfactorily completed for up to two additional one-year periods.

The selection of consultants will be made by a committee on the basis of several factors including qualifications, ability to provide bilingual services, and fee. The proposal members of the selection committee are:

- a region director for Exceptional Student Education or designee
- a supervisor for the Division of Exceptional Student Education
- the supervisor of Psychological Services
- a representative from the Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for ESE
- a representative from the Division of Business Development and Assistance
- a representative from the Bureau of Procurement and Materials Management
- a representative from a school receiving contracted counseling services
- a representative from United Teachers of Dade

The estimated timeline for implementation is as follows:

Request Board approval to issue RFP and approval of Selection Committee	April 14, 1999
Procurement Contract Review Committee	April 15, 1999
Mailing of RFP	April 23, 1999
Opening of Proposals	May 11, 1999
Evaluations completed by Selection Committee	May 12, 1999
Contract Award	June 23, 1999

A copy of the RFP will be provided to Board Members under separate cover, and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of the Board Recording Secretary and Citizen Information Center.

The appropriations for this item will be included in the 1999-2000 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 1999 under Fund 0100, Function 4217, Program 6840, Object 5310, Location 9731.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. authorize the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals for mental health professionals/agencies to provide counseling services in 20 programs for emotionally handicapped students, in 18 school sites, in an amount not to exceed \$616,500, from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000; and
2. approve the selection committee to evaluate proposals submitted.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 1999-2000 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 1999.

RKF/gb