

Education

Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF ITALY, FROM FEBRUARY 11, 1999 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2000**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS: II - STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT / PREPARATION FOR POST SECONDARY EXPERIENCES  
IV - BILINGUALISM  
V - MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION  
IX - COMMUNITY / HOME / PARENT / SCHOOL / BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS**

The Consulate General of Italy in Miami represented by Don Gian B. Campagnola, Consul General of Italy, contacted Miami-Dade County Public Schools for the purpose of initiating an Italian Section of the Pre-International Baccalaureate (Pre-IB) Program. Authorization is requested to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the Consulate General of Italy for the establishment of such a program.

The Memorandum of Understanding proposes the terms and conditions identified below.

- Miami-Dade County Public Schools will:
  - ▶ establish an Italian Section of the Pre-IB Program at G. W. Carver Elementary School identified by Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) in consultation with the Consulate General of Italy in Miami;
  - ▶ initiate a planning year in 1998-99 for the Italian Section of the Pre-IB Program, to be followed by implementation in kindergarten and first grade during the 1999-2000 school year, with an additional grade level added each school year thereafter; and
  - ▶ select students based on interest with access given to students who are citizens of Italy.
  
- The Consulate General of Italy will:
  - ▶ assign, at its expense, an Italian Language Arts teacher, including full salary payments, fringe benefits, and medical and hospital insurance to initiate the program; and

- ▶ provide additional teachers as the program requires within available resources.
- ▶ provide technical, educational, and cultural assistance; and
- ▶ commit itself to supporting the teaching of Italian as a second language in Miami-Dade County through such initiatives deemed appropriate to that end, such as staff development activities, and supplying educational materials.

The Memorandum of Understanding will be in effect from February 11, 1999 through June 30, 2000, renewable annually for up to two additional one-year periods. A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding will be provided to School Board Members under separate cover, and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, and the Citizen Information Center.

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the Consulate General of Italy from February 11, 1999 through June 30, 2000;
2. authorize the initiation of an Italian Section of the Pre-International Baccalaureate (Pre-IB) Program beginning with the 1999-2000 school year at G. W. Carver Elementary School; and
3. authorize the Superintendent to renew the Memorandum of Understanding annually for up to two additional one-year periods.

JHM:aar