

Personnel Management and Services
Nelson E. Diaz, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD A CONFERENCE SESSION
CONCERNING STUDENT PROGRESS AND EFFECTIVE TEACHERS AND
SCHOOLS**

Authorization is requested to hold a conference session on April 14, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. The conference session will feature William L. Sanders, Ph.D., a professor and prominent researcher from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Dr. Sanders has developed the Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) which has received recognition from the Florida Department of Education and districts across the nation.

The Tennessee Value-Added System measures the yearly academic growth of students over time. Through his vast database, Dr. Sanders concludes that the major determinant of a student's academic progress is the effectiveness of the teacher. Additionally, the research can point out the schools where students are demonstrating the most growth. Dr. Sanders believes that administrators and teachers working together can use this information to better serve the needs of all students.

Staff from Personnel Management and Services and the United Teachers of Dade believe that Dr. Sander's research is pertinent to the pilot implementation of ***Professional Assessment and Comprehensive Evaluation System (PACES)***, to school improvement initiatives, and to the professional growth of teachers.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to hold a conference session concerning student progress and effective teachers and schools, April 14, 1999, at 10:00 a.m.