

February 24, 1999

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST/JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TO OPERATE A SHORT-TERM TRANSITIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR SEVERELY EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED STUDENTS AT JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL/HIGHLAND PARK, FROM JULY 1, 1999 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2000

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

Authorization is requested to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Public Health Trust/Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH) to operate a short-term transitional education program for severely emotionally disturbed (SED) students at Jackson Memorial Hospital/Highland Park, from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000. The program was first implemented during the 1988-89 school year, and currently serves a maximum of 20 students in kindergarten through the twelfth grade.

Students in the following categories are eligible for placement in the program:

1. students who are in-patients at the Jackson Memorial/Highland Park facility and who have been determined to be eligible for an SED placement;
2. students who have recently been discharged from this facility or another psychiatric in-patient/residential program who have been determined to be eligible for an SED placement but who require interim placement in a physically secure facility; and
3. students who are currently placed in other Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) / SED programs, but are in need of a short-term physically secure facility in an effort to avert placement in a more restrictive setting.

M-DCPS provides instructional personnel, itinerant services of an art therapist, a speech and language therapist (as needed), educational materials, equipment, supplies, and bus transportation. Therapeutic services are also provided by M-DCPS, including individual and group therapy, parent education and family therapy, behavior management programming, psychological evaluations, social histories, and psychiatric consultation services. Supervision of the program is provided by the Office of Exceptional Student Education and Psychological Services. JMH provides classroom space, psychiatric

evaluations, crisis intervention, music therapy, and, if needed, occupational therapy.

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to exercise his discretion to renew the cooperative agreement annually on a continuing basis.

The President of Public Health Trust / Jackson Memorial Hospital is Ira C. Clark.

There is no exchange of funds for this agreement.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with the Public Health Trust/Jackson Memorial Hospital to operate a short-term transitional educational program for severely emotionally disturbed students, from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000; and
2. renew this cooperative agreement annually on a continuing basis.

There is no exchange of funds for this agreement.

RKF/gb