

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF THE RYDER SYSTEM CHARTER SCHOOL, INC. CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS COMMENCING ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE 1999-2000 SCHOOL YEAR

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS: II - STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT/PREPARATION FOR POST SECONDARY EXPERIENCES
VI - EFFECTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
IX - COMMUNITY/HOME/PARENT/SCHOOL/ BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approved the following charter school application and authorized the Superintendent to negotiate with the approved applicant a contractual agreement which reflects the content of the application as approved by the School Board:

- Ryder System Charter School, Inc., approved at Board meeting of November 18, 1998; to be located on Northwest 33 Street, between 82 Avenue and 84 Avenue, Miami, Florida.

Section 228.056, Florida Statutes, governing charter schools, requires that the major issues involved in the operation of the charter school be considered in advance and written into a contractual agreement between the charter and the sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input. By statute, the specific type of charter being proposed shall address, and the criteria for approval shall be based on, the following:

- the school's mission, the students to be served, and their ages and grades to be included;
- the focus of the curriculum, the instructional methods to be used, and any distinctive instructional techniques to be employed;
- the current baseline standard of achievement and the outcomes to be achieved and the method of measurement that will be used;
- the methods used to identify the educational strengths and needs of students and how well educational goals and performance standards are met by students attending the charter school. Students in charter schools shall, at a minimum, participate in the statewide assessment program;
- a method for resolving conflicts between the governing body of the charter school and the sponsor;

- the admissions procedures and dismissal procedures, including the school's code of student conduct;
- the ways by which the school will achieve a racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves, or within the racial/ethnic range of other public schools in the same district;
- the financial and administrative management of the school;
- the manner in which the school will be insured, including whether or not the school will be required to have liability insurance, and, if so, the terms and conditions thereof and the amounts of coverage;
- the term of the charter, not to exceed 5 years, which shall provide for cancellation of the charter if insufficient progress has been made in attaining the student achievement objectives of the charter and if it is not likely that such objectives can be achieved before expiration of the charter;
- the facilities to be used and their location;
- the qualifications to be required of the teachers;
- the governance structure of the school, including the status of the charter school as a public or private employer; and
- a timetable for implementing the charter, which addresses the implementation of each element thereof and the date by which the charter shall be awarded in order to meet this timetable.

As a result of revisions to the charter school legislation made during the 1998 legislative session, Ryder System Charter School, Inc., has requested the initial contractual agreement for a period of five (5) years instead of three (3) years.

This contractual agreement has been reviewed and revised by the appropriate support staff during the contract negotiation process. In addition, compliance with the guidelines and procedures of Section 286.011 F.S., addressing public meetings and records, were followed.

Copies of the contractual agreement 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, approve the charter school contractual agreement with Ryder System Charter School, Inc., effective March 18, 1999, for a period of five years commencing on the first day of the 1999-2000 school year.

The appropriation for the first year of this contractual agreement will be included in the General Fund of the Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 1999.