

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH AN INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS/SCHOOLS MODEL AT MIAMI GARDENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND JOHN F. KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL BEGINNING IN THE 1999-2000 SCHOOL YEAR

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS:

- II - STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT/PREPARATION FOR POST SECONDARY EXPERIENCES**
- III - READING/LANGUAGE ARTS**
- V - MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION**
- VI - EFFECTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**
- VIII - PROFESSIONAL STAFF AND PRACTICES**
- IX - COMMUNITY/HOME/PARENT/SCHOOL/ BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS**

On January 22, 1997, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, established the Division of Schools of Choice to design and implement district choice programs, including, but not limited to, magnet programs/schools, charter schools, controlled choice schools, and satellite learning centers. In addition to the aforementioned choice programs, the Division of Schools of Choice continues to explore possible public educational options. In response to school level, region, business, and community interest in additional public educational options, the Division of Schools of Choice is proposing the establishment of an Innovative Program/School model.

The Innovative Programs/Schools model will promote, develop, and provide opportunities for parents and students to explore innovative instructional themes through active participation and involvement in curriculum choices. Innovative Programs/Schools will encourage and advocate opportunities for students to develop, improve, and expand employment skills to actively partake in an internationally competitive workforce. These schools will assist in reducing overcrowding in the identified sending school(s), without negatively impacting the receiving school(s). Miami Gardens Elementary School and John F. Kennedy Middle School are either currently under capacity or anticipate being under capacity in the 1999-2000 school year.

Innovative Programs/Schools will be funded according to an annual allocation formula, not to exceed \$100 per student served in the program. Actual amount allocated will be determined each year based on the October full time equivalent (FTE) enrollment in the program.

The establishment of an Innovative Program/School at Miami Gardens Elementary School and John F. Kennedy Middle School will impact approximately 625 students in the first year of the program, and approximately 800 students in subsequent years.

Miami Gardens Elementary School will develop a schoolwide model serving approximately 475 students in Kindergarten through 5th grade during the first year of implementation and approximately 500 students in subsequent years. The innovative instructional theme to be offered at Miami Gardens Elementary School is titled Project "Inspire", Integrating and Nurturing Special Arts Programs Into the Reading Experience. John F. Kennedy Middle School will develop a program-within-a-school model serving approximately 150 students in grades 6th through 8th during the first year of the program, and approximately 300 students in subsequent years. The innovative instructional theme to be offered at John F. Kennedy Middle School is titled the Biomedical Environmental Agriculture Technology (B.E.A.T.) Innovative Program. A copy of a completed description of the Innovative Programs/Schools model 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.

At this time authorization is requested to establish the Innovative Programs/Schools model at Miami Gardens Elementary School and John F. Kennedy Middle School. If approved, the Innovative Programs/Schools will:

- provide additional public educational choices for parents and students within the district;
- stem declining enrollment at the Innovative Programs/Schools while relieving overcrowding at the identified sending school(s);
- improve academic achievement; and/or
- provide educational choice options that help students prepare for academic/career endeavors, e.g., magnet programs, Honors/Advanced Placement/dual enrollment coursework, and post-secondary education and/or job opportunities.

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

1. establish the Innovative Programs/Schools model;
2. implement the program at Miami Gardens Elementary School and John F. Kennedy Middle School beginning in the 1999-2000 school year; and
3. include an operating budget to fund these Innovative Programs/Schools at \$47,500 for Miami Gardens Elementary School and \$15,000 for John F. Kennedy Middle School for implementation in the 1999-2000 school year; \$50,000 for Miami Gardens Elementary School and \$30,000 for John F. Kennedy Middle School in the 2000-2001 school year and subsequent school years.

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