Office of Superintendent of Schools
Board Meeting of May 12, 1999

April 28, 1999

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO SUBMIT THE DISTRICT'S PILOT PLAN B PROPOSAL DESIGNED TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION OF UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENTS IN THE GIFTED PROGRAM TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS:
II - STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT/PREPARATION FOR POST SECONDARY EXPERIENCES
VI - EFFECTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
VIII - PROFESSIONAL STAFF AND PRACTICES

On September 12, 1992, Rule 6A-6.03019 of the Florida Administrative Code, Special Instructional Programs For Students Who Are Gifted, was amended to allow each district to develop a pilot program (Plan B Program) for the purpose of identifying students who belong to groups which are underrepresented within the gifted program. Miami-Dade County Public Schools developed a Plan B proposal that was approved by the Florida Department of Education (FDOE). The District's Plan B proposal has been effectively implemented for the past six years. As indicated in the proposal to the FDOE, the plan has been successful in increasing the number of students from underrepresented populations participating in gifted programs. Since the 1992-93 school year, there has been an increase of over 126 percent in the number of students participating in programs for the gifted. The majority of that growth has occurred for students from underrepresented groups.

FDOE has requested that each district desiring to continue to implement a locally-developed plan through December 31, 1999, submit a proposal to the Department of Education. In order to continue the implementation of the District's Pilot Plan B through 1999, it is requested that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to submit the plan to the FDOE to increase the number of students from underrepresented populations participating in the gifted program.

A copy of the District's Pilot Plan B 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, authorize the Superintendent to submit the District's Pilot Plan B proposal designed to increase participation of underrepresented students in the gifted program through December 31, 1999 to the Florida Department of Education.

JHM:mwr