

August 27, 1999

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED WAY'S SUCCESS BY 6 PARENTING RESEARCH & INTERVENTION PROJECT AT COPE NORTH ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 1999-2000

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS:

- I - EARLY INTERVENTION**
- II - STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT/PREPARATION FOR POST SECONDARY EDUCATION**
- III - READING/LANGUAGE ARTS**
- VI - EFFECTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**
- IX - COMMUNITY/HOME/PARENT/SCHOOL/ BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS**

The National Education Goals 2000 of the Educate America Act, enacted March 31, 1994, states: "All children in America will start school ready to learn." Research has pointed to the critical importance of helping parents of children at risk of school failure to interact with their children in ways that promote the acquisition of early cognitive, language, and social/behavioral skills that lead to school success. These programs focus on the two-way exchange that takes place between the parent and the child.

Therefore, authorization is sought to enter into a cooperative agreement with the University of Miami School of Medicine to develop and implement parenting curriculum that would make parent-child interactions more meaningful. This will take place during the first year of the agreement. During the second and third years of the agreement, the project staff will focus on evaluating the effectiveness of the curriculum, modifying and further developing it, providing ongoing intervention activities to students and introducing the curriculum to child care directors and teachers.

A full description of the Success By 6 Parenting Research & Intervention Project 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. No local funds will be required for this project.

RECOMMENDED:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

- 1. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with the University of Miami School of Medicine to implement the Success By 6 Parenting Research & Intervention Project at COPE North Alternative School for the School Year 1999-2000; and**
- 2. authorize the Superintendent to renew this cooperative agreement for up to two additional one-year periods.**

No local funds are required.

JHM:mt