

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 99-42 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING CONTINUED APPROPRIATIONS FOR AND DELIVERY OF ADULT AND POSTSECONDARY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS UNDER THEIR CURRENT STRUCTURE**

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

The Florida community college system has stated its intention to consolidate under its authority the delivery of postsecondary vocational education programs statewide. The community college system's goal is to restrict public school districts to the delivery of educational services to the K-12 population. This would negate the current system whereby Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) offers a range of workforce development programs to the public and to business and industry.

In order to meet the economic development and training needs of the community, local control of the delivery of postsecondary education instruction is best decided within the context of the population such programs serve. Moreover, this consolidation effort on the part of the community college system violates the spirit and legislative intent of Senate Bill 1688 and 1124. Currently, Florida's school districts and community colleges are empowered to offer equal educational programs and are held accountable for the achievement of identical performance measures. Should the community college effort prove successful, more than 288,000 students enrolled in M-DCPS adult and postsecondary vocational programs will be impacted, in addition to those students who participate in programs which serve the needs of the elderly, adults with disabilities, the incarcerated, and other special populations.

M-DCPS's response to this grave proposal must be deliberative, timely, and effective. It must be delivered to the Florida legislature in the spirit of good cause in order to provide our lawmakers with a clear understanding of the school district's position as it relates to the present and future delivery of adult and postsecondary vocational education programs.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 99-42 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, supporting continued appropriations for and delivery of adult and postsecondary vocational programs under their current structure.

JHM:dIv

**RESOLUTION NO. 99-42  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
SUPPORTING CONTINUED APPROPRIATIONS FOR AND  
DELIVERY OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ADULT AND POSTSECONDARY VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS UNDER THEIR  
CURRENT STRUCTURE**

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has set a high priority on collaborating with public and private agencies to effect implementation of creative workforce economic development programs in support of industry and business sectors that provide high-skill/high-wage occupational opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has an authorized budget to provide for the training of Florida's citizens for employment in these high-skill/high-wage occupations and has further decreed that the opportunity for entrance into said training programs will be extended to all segments of our society; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has determined that workforce literacy is a high priority and that quality workforce education programs must be offered that assure the opportunity for the workforce population to be competitive; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has determined that serving the needs of adults with disabilities is a high priority and that effective educational programs must be offered to prepare members of this population to be competitive; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has determined that lifelong learning is an integral part of the educational delivery system and that the needs of the elderly population are a high priority; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has determined that educational programs serving the needs of the disadvantaged population are an integral part of the educational delivery system and are a high priority; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has determined that society will receive significant benefit if those individuals incarcerated in correctional facilities are trained and placed into long-term gainful employment; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools' administrators, faculty, and staff have a proven track record for the methodical preparation of personnel and programs to meet the needs of all segments of the community they serve; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools' administrators, faculty, and staff have maintained a positive attitude in the delivery of effective, high-quality educational programs in a dynamic fiscally and socially challenging environment; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools' administrators, faculty, and staff have sustained superior performance as evidenced by their dedication and commitment, the high quality of their educational programs, and the academic achievement of their students; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, currently provides educational training programs in support of pre-K, K-12, and postsecondary adult and vocational programs; and

**WHEREAS**, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, unanimously and unequivocally supports the spirit of the accountability measures and equal offering of educational programs by all affected educational institutions as detailed in Senate Bill 1688, an innovative 1997 Florida Legislative initiative;

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:***

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 99-42 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, expressing unequivocal support for continued appropriations for and delivery of all currently authorized postsecondary, adult, and vocational programs. The current delivery systems have met, are meeting, and will continue to meet the educational and economic development needs of the community and, as such, the current structure of the Miami-Dade workforce education and economic development delivery system must be preserved.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this twentieth day of October, A.D. 1999

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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Chair

ATTEST:

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Secretary