

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: CONFIRM THE SUBMISSION OF F. C. MARTIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S APPLICATION FOR OFFICIAL AUTHORIZATION AS AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (SIC) TO THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORGANISATION (SIC)**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS:**

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

Authorization is requested to confirm the submission of F. C. Martin Elementary School's application for official authorization as an International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (sic) to the International Baccalaureate Organisation (sic) (IBO). As an IBO-authorized program, F. C. Martin will join the district's three fully authorized IB programs at Coral Gables, Coral Reef, and North Miami senior high schools. At this time, the district will not be seeking authorization from the IBO for any of the Pre-IB programs at the middle school level, due to the following reasons:

- incompatible grade configuration (IB Middle Years Programme [sic] covers grades six through ten);
- mandatory seven-period day in grades six through ten; and
- the requisite cost factors necessitated by the above.

Based on current programs/procedures, the authorization of F. C. Martin Elementary School as an IB Primary Years Programme (sic) will not provide a guaranteed articulation track for students to subsequently access International Education magnets, IB or otherwise, at the middle and senior high school levels. International Baccalaureate articulation issues are being further examined in a feasibility study which will be provided to the Board at a later date.

As part of the Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) federal grant for the 1998-2001 funding cycle, F. C. Martin Elementary School has fulfilled the initial two phases of the eligibility prerequisites for consideration as an IB Primary Years Programme (sic).

The IBO official authorization consists of a four-phase process, which includes:

- Phase One: Consideration and Feasibility Study
- Phase Two: Implementation
- Phase Three: Application and School Visits
- Phase Four: Authorization

The school's currently allocated magnet budget will cover the one-time application fee of \$3,600, the annual membership fee of \$2,600 (due annually, once the school is authorized), and the reevaluation fee of \$2,600 (payable three years after the authorization year and every five years thereafter). The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 1999-2000 Adopted Budget under Fund 0100, Function 5101, Program 9638, Object 5730, Location 3101.

If approved by the IBO, F. C. Martin Elementary School will be among the first fully authorized, IB Primary Years Programmes (sic) in the nation. As such, the school will be internationally recognized as offering a rigorous academic program that utilizes a holistic approach to learning; linking six major academic disciplines, community service, and cultural pursuits.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to confirm the submission of F. C. Martin Elementary School's application for official authorization as an IB Primary Years Programme (sic) to the IBO.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 1999-2000 Adopted Budget.

MCA/MB:mf