

December 10, 1999

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL OF SOUTH FLORIDA TO PROVIDE A STAY-IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM IN SELECTED PUBLIC SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS, FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2000**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS:**

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

For a 10-year period, from 1986 through 1996, the Training and Employment Council of South Florida (TEC) operated a Stay-in-School Program in 13 Miami-Dade County public senior high schools. Designed initially with the help of three principals, it was one of the largest and most effective dropout prevention programs in the country, having served more than 10,000 at-risk youth identified by the schools as most likely to drop out. The program had a 92 percent success rate during a period in which the overall dropout rate was 29.2 percent.

A request for application has been issued by the TEC giving all Miami-Dade County public senior high schools the opportunity to request the provision of the Stay-in-School resources beginning February 1, 2000. The senior high schools to participate will be selected by the TEC.

A full description of the Stay-in-School Program 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.

Interested schools will be required to redirect existing resources, including personnel. No additional local funds are required to enter into this cooperative agreement.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Training and Employment Council of South Florida to provide a Stay-in-School Program in selected public senior high schools, from February 1, 2000 through June 30, 2000.

No additional local funds are required.

JHM:inm