

Personnel Management and Services  
Nelson E. Diaz, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR SELECTED TEACHERS FROM MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE IN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS IN JULY 2000, AT LA UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID, LA UNIVERSIDAD DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, AND LA UNIVERSIDAD DE SALAMANCA, IN SPAIN**

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain (MECS) have invited selected teachers from Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) to participate in language and culture educational study programs in July 2000, at La Universidad Complutense de Madrid and La Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, in Spain. Fifteen teachers throughout the State will be awarded full scholarships to participate in these programs at highly recognized universities in Spain. However, because of Miami-Dade County Public Schools' commitment to quality bilingual and multicultural education, the FDOE and MECS have approved the allocation of 20 full scholarships for M-DCPS teachers.

Authorization is requested from the Board for M-DCPS teachers to participate in these summer programs. The cost of the programs is being funded by the Florida Department of Education and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain. Selected teachers are responsible for the air fare. All classes are taught in Spanish and graduate credits (3) are available through The University of New Mexico or Hunter College at a cost to the participants. The first two program components are:

- a Children's Literature Program offered by La Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain. The program will be held from July 3 to July 21, 2000, and includes 60 hours of instruction in Spanish children's literature for elementary school teachers who instruct in Spanish in Bilingual Schools, Extended Foreign Language Programs, and International Studies Programs; teachers of Spanish for Spanish Speakers (Spanish-S) and Spanish as a Second Language (Spanish SL). It also includes room and board for three weeks, including three meals a day, special cultural activities and cultural trips. The cost of the program being funded per participant is \$2,050; and
- a Spanish Literature Program offered by La Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain. This program will be held from July 10 to July 28, 2000, and includes 60 hours of instruction in Spanish literature for secondary school teachers of Spanish for Spanish Speakers and Spanish as a Foreign Language. It also includes room and board for three weeks,

including three meals a day, special cultural activities to the theater, concerts, and cultural trips to La Coruña, Rias Altas, Pontevedra, and Rias Bajas; activities to "Santiago, Cultural Capital of 2000." The cost of the program being funded per participant is \$2,092.

A third component being offered by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain is a program at La Universidad de Salamanca, Spain, from July 3 to July 21, 2000. This program is for 20 regular classroom elementary and secondary teachers. The cost of this program is \$2,150 per participant. The Ministry of Education and Culture provides individual scholarships of \$850. The participant will have to pay \$1,300. The program provides for 60 hours of instruction, room and board for three weeks, including three meals a day; special cultural activities to the theater, concerts, cultural trips to Madrid, Segovia, and Toledo. Miami-Dade County Public Schools will pay for the air fare of these participants, funding to be provided by the Title II Eisenhower Professional Development Program. The total cost of this program for the district will not exceed \$22,000.

Teachers selected to participate in the summer study program must have acceptable evaluations, approval of the school district and their principals, and meet the selection criteria of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain. The deadline for submission of applications is March 3, 2000.

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

1. authorize 20 selected M-DCPS teachers to participate in language and cultural educational programs in July 2000, at La Universidad Complutense de Madrid and La Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain, with funding to be provided by the Florida Department of Education and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain; air fare to be the responsibility of each participant; and
2. authorize 20 selected M-DCPS teachers to participate in language and cultural educational programs in July 2000, at La Universidad de Salamanca, Spain; each participants receiving an \$850 scholarship from the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain; and each participant responsible for \$1,300 for the cost of the program; funding for the air fare to be provided by the Title II Eisenhower Professional Development Program, not to exceed \$22,000.

NED/vh