

March 22, 2000

Education Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent .

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY TO PROVIDE TRAINING ON *SOAR TO SUCCESS*, A RESEARCH-BASED READING INTERMEDIATE INTERVENTION PROGRAM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$53,900, APRIL 17-18, 2000

The Division of Language Arts/Reading, in collaboration with Federal Programs and Grants Administration, and Exceptional Student Education and Psychological Services are requesting authorization to enter into a contractual agreement with Houghton Mifflin Company to train teachers and other professional staff on *Soar to Success*, a research-based reading intervention program. This intervention is designed for students who are reading significantly below grade level to receive the instruction necessary to read at grade level as quickly as possible.

Federal Programs and Grants Administration and Exceptional Student Education and Psychological Services are contracting with Houghton Mifflin Company to conduct the training. The contract with Houghton Mifflin will include two days of training, April 17 and 18, 2000, at a cost of \$550 per participant and in an amount not to exceed \$53,900. The Division of Language Arts/Reading previously purchased the teaching materials, 58 Grade Six Kits, for a total cost of \$69,851.10.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021 has reviewed this contractual agreement on March 16, 2000, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted as Houghton Mifflin Company has specific expertise in the training for this program.

A partial appropriation of \$37,400 for this item is included in the 1999-2000 Adopted Budget of Federal Programs and Grants Administration under Fund 0420, Function 5100, Program 4663, Object 5310, Location 9616 and the remainder of the appropriation in the amount of \$16,500 is included in the Office of Exceptional Student Education and Psychological Services Budget under Fund 0420, Function 5200, Program 4655, Object 5310, Location 9615 for a combined total of \$53,900.

Mr. George Logue is the president of Houghton Mifflin Company.

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with Houghton Mifflin Company to provide training on Soar to Success, a research-based reading intermediate intervention program, in an amount not to exceed \$53,900, April 17-18, 2000; and
2. grant an exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021.

The appropriation for this item is included in the 1999-2000 budget of Federal Programs and Grants Administration and Exceptional Student Education and Psychological Services.

AM:ls