

May 2, 2000

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE COLLEGE BOARD, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$224,850, TO IMPLEMENT THE *PACESSETTER*® INITIATIVE IN ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS, AND SPANISH, FROM JULY 1, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2001

In 1993, the College Board first offered its *Pacesetter*® program. *Pacesetter*® is a national performance-based curriculum in Mathematics, English, and Spanish. The objective of the *Pacesetter*® initiative is to raise the academic expectations of a broad range of secondary school students and to facilitate their high achievement. Academic excellence for *all* students is *Pacesetter's*® goal. This program uses engaging instructional strategies with rigorous curriculum.

All *Pacesetter*® course curricula are academically challenging. The assessment component within the courses allows students to demonstrate progress in a variety of ways, reflecting national academic standards. At the end of the 1998-1999 school year, over 7,000 Miami-Dade County Public Schools' students, at 30 senior high schools, actively participated in the official *Pacesetter*® curriculum.

During the 2000-2001 school year, a maximum of 10,300 students will participate in *Pacesetter*® English, *Voices of Modern Cultures*; *Pacesetter*® Mathematics, *Precalculus Through Modeling*; and *Pacesetter*® Spanish, *¿Nos Conocemos?* at a cost of \$19.50 per student for a participation cost of \$200,850. The cost of the 2000-2001 implementation will include providing newly participating teachers with eight days of professional development training beginning in the summer and continuing through the school year. Also included are students' course materials, culminating assessments, national examination scoring, and reporting of results. The total cost of the 2000-2001 program, which includes the training components, will not exceed \$224,850.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021 reviewed this contractual agreement on April 26, 2000, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted based on the College Board being the sole source for the *Pacesetter*® program.

Dr. R. Stephen Green is the Executive Director of School Level Services for the College Board.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 2000-2001 General Fund of the Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2000 under Fund 0100, Function 6300, Program 9468, Objects 5136, 5149, 5150, 5310, 5390, 5399, and 5510, Location 9622.

RECOMMENDED:

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the College Board, in an amount not to exceed \$224,850, to implement the *Pacesetter®* initiative in English, Mathematics, and Spanish, from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001; and
2. grant an exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 2000-2001 General Fund of the Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2000.

JHM:acz