

Federal Programs and Grants Administration  
John Johnson II, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR FUNDING THE CREATING A NETWORK OF SISTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM, EFFECTIVE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2000 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2001**

The State Department under the Freedom Support Act of 1992 has issued a Request for Proposals for short-term reciprocal exchanges of students, ages 14 to 18, to link a network of secondary schools in the United States with a network of schools in one or more of the Newly Independent States (NIS), formerly the Soviet Union.

From 1991 to 2000, Miami-Dade County Public Schools has been awarded a United States Information Agency grant in the total amount of \$1,628,118. Under this funding initiative, schools in Florida have been linked with schools in the NIS to implement joint educational projects. The projects have been related to environmental issues, mutual understanding, the use of electronic mail to further mutual understanding, and to develop a bilingual health education booklet.

For the 2000-2001 school year, the project will link four schools in South Florida, with four schools in Baku, Azerbaijan. Three schools, MAST Academy, Southwest Miami Senior High School and Pahokee Middle/Senior High School, (Palm Beach County), participated in the program for the last three years. The fourth school will be selected from a list of schools that responded to a Request for Proposals. The long-term goal of this program is the development of open, democratic societies in the NIS. During the school year, the students will focus on health education by promoting awareness of good health practices and by participating in community service activities. As part of the project, approximately 40 students and ten educators and escorts will participate in reciprocal exchange visits to their partners' schools. Participating schools will plan visits with schools in the feeder pattern.

The paired schools have business partners who will provide in-kind contributions i.e., tickets to cultural events, sightseeing tours, and receptions.

For the 2000-01 school year, grant funds in the amount of \$96,700 will be used to cover the cost of participants' travel, meals, hotel accommodations, salaries and supplies.

Official notification relative to this grant award was received on August 9, 2000; however, contract negotiations were not finalized until August 18, 2000. The grant award allows for the reimbursement of expenditures from September 1, 2000.

**F-1**

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. accept a grant award from and enter into a contractual agreement with the State Department, in the amount of \$96,700, for funding the Creating a Network of Sister Schools Program, effective as of September 1, 2000 through August 31, 2001;
2. extend this contractual agreement, at no additional cost, for up to one year, as authorized through official notification from the granting agency, if it is deemed necessary, in order to fully expend the grant award and thus complete the scope of the project; and
3. Financial Affairs to establish appropriations in the amounts approved by the granting agency; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board.

KDS:hd



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BUDGET SUMMARY FORM

Yes  No Are there any in-kind or matching funds required?

GRANT/PROGRAM NAME: Creating a Network of Sister Schools Program

Entitlement Grant

Non-Entitlement/Contract

Grant Period Beginning September 1, 2000 Ending August 31, 2001  
(Date) (Date)

FUNCTION	Total Budget	Salaries (51XX)	Employee Benefits (52XX)	Purchased Services (53XX)	Energy Services (54XX)	Materials and Supplies (55XX)	Capital Outlay (56XX)	Other Expense (57XX)
INSTRUCTION SERVICES	5000							
SUPPORT SERVICES:								
Pupil Personnel Services	6100	970	230	94,170		1,124		
Instructional Media Services	6200							
Instruction & Curriculum Development	6300							
Instructional Staff Training	6400							
Board of Education	7100							
General Administration	7200	206*						206*
School Administration	7300							
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction	7400							
Fiscal Services	7500							
Food Services	7600							
Central Services	7700							
Transportation Services	7800							
Operation of Plant	7900							
Maintenance of Plant	8100							
Community Services	9100							
Debt	9200							
TOTAL INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	96,700	970	230	94,170		1,124		206

\*Includes Federal Indirect Costs of 206

Submitted for Board Approval/Authorization:

Reviewed By [Signature] Agenda Item F-1 Board Meeting of September 13, 2000  
Division of Budget (Number) (Date)