

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OR DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF HIALEAH POLICE DEPARTMENT TO OPERATE TWO CENTERS FOR OUTDOOR SUSPENSION, FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2001**

On January 12, 2000, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorized the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with the City of Hialeah Police Department, to open a Center for Outdoor Suspension (COS) to accommodate students who had been suspended from school to provide them with educational and counseling services.

The Hialeah Police Department (HPD) received a grant from the Florida Department of Human Services and the City of Hialeah that it utilized for the funding of a COS. Under the aegis of this program, students received tutoring with emphasis on basic skills. The instructional component of the program was supplemented with anger management, conflict resolution, survival skills, and the rewards inherent in ethical behavior. Upon authorization, the HPD placed a police officer, a social worker, and teachers in the COS housed at Jose Marti Middle School. Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) provided the space for the facility and recommended appropriate teachers. HPD reimbursed M-DCPS for the teachers salaries.

Authorization is requested to enter into a cooperative agreement with HPD to continue the COS at Jose Marti Middle School and open another COS at Palm Springs Middle School. Students in the program would benefit greatly from the small staff-student ratio, interaction with law enforcement, together with the skill and character-building components of the program. Students' attendance at the COS would ensure behavioral modification and academic improvement.

No local funds are required.

Mr. Rolando D. Bolaños is the Chief of Police for the Hialeah Police Department.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent or designee to enter into a cooperative agreement with the City of Hialeah Police Department to operate two Centers for Outdoor Suspension, from November 16, 2000 through June 30, 2001.

No local funds are required.

NJP:tp