

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 EACH, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000, TO ESTABLISH ACADEMIES OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AT MIAMI CENTRAL AND MIAMI KILLIAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS, BEGINNING WITH THE 2001-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

As Miami continues to develop as an information technology center, Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) reputation in this industry will continue to be a major source of job opportunities for M-DCPS graduates. The National Academy Foundation (NAF) is the largest career academy program in the nation, operating Academies of Finance, Academies of Travel and Tourism, and most recently, Academies of Information Technology (AOIT). In response to NAF's Request For Proposals for Academies of Information Technology, Miami Central and Miami Killian senior high schools submitted proposals with the guidance of staff from the Division of Schools of Choice and subsequently both schools received tentative approval from NAF to begin operating AOITs with the 2001-2002 school year.

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent or his designee to enter into contractual agreements with NAF to establish AOITs at Miami Central and Miami Killian senior high schools in response to the industry need for a qualified workforce. This agreement will ultimately benefit approximately 600 students in grades 9 through 12 at both schools. The district agrees to implement the NAF curriculum and to seek local industry leadership. Once the agreement is approved, NAF will provide:

- comprehensive, standards-based high school career education curriculum;
- training opportunities for teachers to become proficient with curriculum;
- industry-specific knowledge and general workplace competencies;
- staff development: annual conferences, regional meetings, and forums;
- team building and leadership development; and
- public relations support.

A copy of the NAF contractual agreements will be provided to School Board Members under separate cover, and will be available for inspection in the office of the Board Recording Secretary and the Citizen Information Center.

Such agreements would require a one-time NAF membership fee of \$5,000 for each Academy, for a total amount not to exceed \$10,000. The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the schools' budgets in the following structures:

School	Fund	Object	Location	Program	Function
Central Sr.	0100	5510	7251	9771	5103
Killian Sr.	0100	5390	7361	6030	5103

Mr. Sanford I. Weill serves as the Chair of the Board for the National Academy Foundation and Chair & CEO of Citigroup. Dr. John J. Ferrandino serves as the President of the Foundation.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent or his designee to enter into contractual agreements with the National Academy Foundation (NAF) to establish Academies of Information Technology at Miami Central and Miami Killian senior high schools beginning with the 2001-2002 school year. Said agreements would require a one-time NAF membership fee of \$5,000 for each Academy of Information Technology, for a total amount not to exceed \$10,000.

The appropriation for this item is included in General Fund of the 2000-2001 Adopted Budget.

MT:rp