

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL-TO-CAREER PLAN 2001-2005**

Goal I of the District Strategic Plan 2001-2005 for Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is: School-To-Career. Recognizing the inextricable link that exists between education and employment, this goal was established to provide students with an education that not only provides high academic standards but integrates knowledge and skills with an understanding of career options. The combination of rigorous academics and relevant workplace knowledge and skills is necessary for M-DCPS to realize the goal of providing a world class workforce for this community, the State of Florida, and the nation.

In support of Goal I of the District Strategic Plan, staff from the Bureau of Elementary, Secondary, and Workforce Development Education developed the District Comprehensive School-To-Career Plan in collaboration with District curriculum personnel, region and school site personnel, and the District School-To-Career Advisory Committee, consisting of individuals of diverse backgrounds and interests. The plan is designed to create a seamless career connection with the District's Competency-Based Curriculum that includes career academies in senior high schools. Additionally, the plan's development was guided by the three R's of successful school reform: *restructuring, reculturing, and rethinking professional development.*

In order to assess the current status of school-to-career throughout the District and to secure baseline data, the Office of School Reform surveyed all schools in the District. The information gained from the survey formulated the basis for the District Comprehensive School-To-Career Plan. The data collected reflected a variety of school-to-career strategies and activities being implemented in elementary, K-8 and middle schools. Senior high schools provided data regarding their level of implementation of career academies and other elements such as applied technology programs and work-based learning that support and/or leverage the design and development of additional career academies.

Determining progress made toward accomplishing the benchmarks of the Plan will primarily be the responsibility of the Office of Educational Evaluation and Research. Annual progress reports will be submitted to the Board detailing progress made toward accomplishing each benchmark.

The District Comprehensive School-To-Career Plan 2001-2005 will be provided to School Board Members under separate cover, and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, and the Citizen Information Center.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, receive the District Comprehensive School-To-Career Plan 2001-2005.