

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE DIVISION OF BLIND SERVICES, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO PROVIDE A COOPERATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS, FROM JULY 1, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Division of Blind Services, Florida Department of Education, to provide a cooperative school program for blind and visually impaired students. This cooperative agreement has been in effect since 1967.

The Division of Blind Services provides: medical, psychological, and psychiatric evaluations; vocational placement; post-secondary services; and personal management skills to approximately 185 blind and visually impaired students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. These services may be provided at any time during the school year, either in the student's home or in a school, as mutually agreed upon by personnel from the school system and the Division of Blind Services.

The Director of the Division of Blind Services is Ms. Gail Sterner.

There is no exchange of funds.

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

1. to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Division of Blind Services, Florida Department of Education, to provide a cooperative school program for blind and visually impaired students, from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003; and
2. to renew the cooperative agreement for up to two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.