

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR MIAMI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM CHARTER SCHOOL

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approved the charter school application for Miami Children's Museum Charter School on December 13, 2000, and authorized the Superintendent to negotiate the charter school contractual agreement with the applicant for a term of ten (10) years commencing with the 2003-2004 school year. The Charter School Contract Review Committee met on February 7, 2002, and by a majority vote, made a recommendation for approval of the charter school contractual agreement.

Miami Children's Museum Charter School will be located on the south side of Watson Island, on the MacArthur Highway (I-395), near downtown Miami. An assigned address will be available in August 2002. The governing board will operate the school through a management contract with Academica Corporation, Fernando Zulueta, President. The charter school will serve a maximum of 350 students enrolled in grades Kindergarten through 5, commencing with the first year of operation.

The following is the initial Board of Directors for Miami Children's Museum Charter School: Mr. Carlos Bared, United Petroleum Corp.; Dr. Ruth Jacoby, Somerset Academy; Mr. Scott Leeds, Miami Children's Museum; Ms. Deborah Spiegelman; Miami Children's Museum; Mr. Samuel A. Terilli, Jr. Ford & Harrison LLP; and Mr. Ignacio Zulueta, attorney.

Miami Children's Museum Charter School will be open to any student residing in Miami-Dade County. District schools in close proximity to the charter school include:

School	Student Population	Percentage Utilization (Permanent and Relocatable Program Capacity)
Douglass Elementary, Frederick	822	94
Hartner Elementary, Eneida M.	1,131	120
Riverside Elementary	1,212	104
South Pointe Elementary	580	98
Southside Elementary	425	101
Wheatley Elementary, Phillis	518	104

Section 228.056, Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, requires that the major issues involved in the operation of charter schools be considered in advance and written into a charter school contractual agreement between the charter school and the Sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.

Copies of this charter school contractual agreement will be placed on file, and will be available for inspection in the School Board members' office, in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, and the Citizen Information Center.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the charter school contractual agreement with Miami Children's Museum Charter School, for a period of ten years, commencing on the first day of the 2003-2004 school year.

MT:mb