

Business Operations  
Joe Arriola, Chief Business Officer

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AN AMENDED PROPOSAL FOR THE K-3 CLASS SIZE REDUCTION APPROPRIATION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

During the 1999 Legislative Session, Specific Appropriation 19A, SB2500 appropriated 100 million dollars to school districts for the construction of classroom facilities to serve public school students in kindergarten through grade three. At its October 26, 1999 meeting, the State Board of Education approved the Commissioner's distribution plan specifically allocating \$10,398,475 to Miami-Dade County Public Schools. At its January 12, 2000 meeting, the Board approved the submission of an application for specific K-3 class size reduction projects in order to qualify for these funds.

The Florida Department of Education has since redistributed the K-3 Class Size Reduction appropriation as a result of some districts failing to submit a request for funds by the application deadline. Miami-Dade has been allocated an additional \$1,267,974.

The Office of Budget Management, in collaboration with Facilities Planning and Construction and School Operations, has prepared Miami-Dade County Public School's amended application to the Florida Department of Education with specific K-3 class size reduction projects.

Copies of the Proposal for Specific Class Size Reduction Projects in grades K-3 will be submitted to the School Board separately and will be placed on file in the Office of the Recording Secretary to the School Board and in the Citizen Information Center.

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

- 1) authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit the amended 1999 Proposal for Specific Class Size Reduction Projects in Kindergarten through Grade Three to the Florida Department of Education; and
- 2) adopt as its goal to fund and maintain the 1:20 teacher student ratio for the proposed projects included in the program.