

Mrs. Manty Sabatés Morse, Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ESTABLISH CORAL WAY ELEMENTARY AS A K-8 CENTER

At its December 12, 2000, meeting, the School Board received the Evaluation of the K-8 Centers Program report. The report demonstrates that the K-8 centers model is an educational concept that can provide benefits to students, parents, and the school system. It recommends the expansion of K-8 centers to other schools in the district.

In 1963, Coral Way Elementary initiated the first dual language program in the United States providing 60% of the instructional day in English and 40% in Spanish. The school has set the standard nationwide and is internationally recognized as a model for bilingual education. The success of the dual language program at Coral Way Elementary has been extensively researched and documented in the literature.

On September 12, 2001, the Board-approved Five-Year Work Plan included the Middle Learning Center at Coral Way Elementary at an estimated cost of \$7,016,058. In order to provide a seamless program for students who initiate a dual language curriculum at Coral Way Elementary, authorization is requested to direct the superintendent to expand the program by changing the grade configuration of the school from grades K-5 to K-8.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MRS. MANTY SABATÉS MORSE:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to change the grade configuration of Coral Way Elementary School from grades K-5 to a K-8 Center upon completion of the construction of the Middle Learning Center.

Funds for this project were included in the Five-Year Work Plan approved by the Board on September 12, 2001. No additional funds are being requested.