

Education  
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE  
CONSULATE GENERAL OF ITALY AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE:       ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AND SCHOOL  
OPERATIONS**

At its meeting of June 28, 1999, the School Board authorized the Superintendent to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Consulate General of Italy and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS). This Memorandum envisioned the establishment of an International Education Italian program at George W. Carver Elementary School. At the School Board meeting of October 5, 1999, the School Board approved the inclusion of Charles E. Wyche Elementary in the Italian International Education Program.

Authorization is being requested to renew the MOU. The proposed renewal continues the terms and conditions of the original MOU. La Organizzazione Per La Diffusione Della Lingua Italiana (ODLI), Inc., under the auspices of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will continue to provide a minimum of one (1) Italian Language Arts teacher to deliver direct instructional services in the participating schools. In addition, ODLI, Inc., will continue to provide support to the school programs in the form of budgetary contribution for instructional materials in Italian and promotion of parental involvement and cultural/educational activities.

Conscious of the importance of all educational endeavors that promote the Italian language and culture and international understanding, the General Consulate of Italy in Miami, under the auspices of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has opened an Office of Education to develop programs and support all initiatives appropriate to that end. In addition to the original terms and conditions of the 1999 MOU, the Office of Education of the Consulate General of Italy in Miami will promote the development of retraining and provide refresher courses for M-DCPS World Language-Italian teachers.

Funding for one (1) teacher is included in the appropriation for World Language Programs.

**B-14**

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to renew the Memorandum of Understanding between the General Consulate of Italy and Miami-Dade County Public Schools for a period of one (1) year, with an automatic extension for three (3) consecutive years.

The appropriation for this item is included under World Language Programs in the following structure: Fund 0100, Program 6620, Function 5101.

LCR:JHU:mvz