

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY UNDER THE FLORIDA WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM, WHEREBY JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY WILL REIMBURSE IN FULL THE SALARIES FOR ITS STUDENTS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$32,400, AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL COVER FRS/FICA RETIREMENT COSTS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,557, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 29, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003

COMMITTEE: COMMUNITY, ADULT AND ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

The Florida Work Experience Program was instituted to introduce eligible students to work experience that will complement and reinforce their educational program and career goals. Johnson & Wales University is a grantee institution that proposes to enter into a contractual agreement with Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) as an employer of part-time eligible students in paraprofessional positions. M-DCPS has been informed that funds will be available for the 2002-2003 school year. Johnson & Wales University, the sponsoring post-secondary institution, provides 100 percent of the wages of the students who will be hired as M-DCPS paraprofessional employees. These college students will provide instructional aid primarily with low-income, inner city area elementary and secondary students, as well as adult students lacking basic or functional literacy skills.

Johnson & Wales University students are paid an hourly rate equivalent to that of M-DCPS paraprofessionals. Enrollees in the program must meet the requirements set forth under Section 240.404, Florida Statutes. Johnson & Wales University will reimburse M-DCPS for actual salaries up to a maximum of \$32,400. The School District's share of the cost is limited to paying FRS/FICA retirement costs, in an amount not to exceed \$5,557.

The appropriation for this item is included in the 2002-2003 Tentative Adopted Budget under Fund 0100, Object 5150, Location 8001, Program 9274, Function 5102.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with Johnson & Wales University under the Florida Work Experience Program, whereby Johnson & Wales University will reimburse the salaries of its students, in an amount not to exceed \$32,400, and Miami-Dade County Public Schools will cover FRS/FICA retirement costs, in an amount not to exceed \$5,557, effective August 29, 2002 through June 30, 2003.

The appropriation for this item is included in the 2002-2003 Tentative Adopted Budget.

JHM/JG:rn