

Merrett R. Stierheim, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM IBM CORPORATION FOR
REINVENTING EDUCATION 3: DATA TO IMPROVE INSTRUCTION,
AND TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH IBM
FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO THREE YEARS**

COMMITTEE: FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

The Division of Instructional Technology and Media Support Services has received a *Reinventing Education 3: Data to Improve Instruction Grant* from the IBM Corporation (IBM). Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is one of two school districts in the country to be selected for this award.

The partnership between M-DCPS and IBM will focus on providing educators at all levels of the system, placing emphasis on classroom teachers, with seamless access to instructional tools and education data in order to inform decision-making and raise the quality of teaching and learning. Innovative applications of IBM Learning Village Technology, a software application currently in use in the District, will serve as the primary vehicle for these changes. The proposed product may include applications such as gradebook, attendance, and lesson planning tools; all of which are critically needed by the District and which would result in a cost savings to the District greater than the actual award.

IBM will provide approximately \$1,000,000 in services, technical resources, software, hardware, training, research, and funds. IBM and M-DCPS will cooperate as set forth in a contractual agreement to be developed jointly after Board authorization of the grant award. Should IBM and the District be unable to come to terms, the District is under no obligation to IBM.

M-DCPS will support the award with a portion of the technology budget for personnel and for the purchase of additional hardware and software resources for schools involved in the onset of the project. Funds for these items are included in the General Fund of the 2002-2003 budget, under Fund 0100, Function 6200, Program 8600, Objects 51XX, 5640, 5691 and 5692, Location 9629, in an amount not to exceed the grant award.

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The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 2002-2003 Adopted Budget.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. accept a grant award from IBM Corporation, in the approximate amount of \$1,000,000, for funding the *Reinventing Education 3: Data to Improve Instruction Grant*;
2. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with IBM for a maximum period of three years; and
3. direct Financial Affairs to establish appropriations in the amounts approved by the granting agency; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board.

AMC/CM:ccs