

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT
TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF FREE INTERNET SERVICE AND
EMAIL ACCOUNTS EXCLUSIVELY FOR HOME USE FOR
STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF AT "FF", "F", AND "D"
SCHOOLS**

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

BellSouth has offered to donate free Internet service and email accounts for selected students and instructional staff members at the "FF", "F", and "D" schools, renewable annually, for three years beginning in 2002. The 1,600 free accounts support the Superintendent's mission of providing access to timely information and quality resources to empower teachers, administrators, and students. The teachers receiving the free accounts would have to own a home computer and subscribe to regular telephone service. The students who are identified for participation to receive the free accounts would have to have regular telephone service. Meanwhile, Miami-Dade County Public Schools is partnering with the Education Fund to secure these targeted students with home computers, if needed.

The Internet accounts will provide teachers and students with a wealth of quality resources offered over the Internet as well as the dedicated educational resources offered through the District's Educational Portal.

No local funds are required.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to accept a donation of free Internet service and email accounts exclusively for home use for students and instructional staff at "FF", "F", and "D" schools renewable annually for three years beginning in 2002.

No local funds are required.