

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH SWEET HOME COMMUNITY BUILDERS, INC., ON BEHALF OF SWEET HOME CHARTER SCHOOL

COMMITTEE: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

On December 12, 2001, the School Board approved a charter school application submitted by Sweet Home Community Builders, Inc. The Board authorized the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement with the applicant for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2003-2004 school year. The Charter School Contract Review Committee met on December 12, 2002, and by majority vote made a recommendation for approval of the proposed site and the charter school contractual agreement with Sweet Home Community Builders, Inc., on behalf of Sweet Home Charter School.

Sweet Home Charter School will be located at SW 180 Street and 107 Avenue, Miami, Florida. The charter school will serve a maximum of 1,075 students in grades kindergarten through eight with 100 students in kindergarten in its first year of operation in a temporary facility at 17201 SW 103 Avenue, Perrine, Florida 33157.

The following is the Governing Board for Sweet Home Charter School: Ms. Barbara A. Howard, Marketing Consultant; Ms. Cindy R. Davis, Financial Planner; Mr. Samuel B. Howard, Courier; Mr. George F. Knox, Attorney; and Dr. Walter T. Richardson, Educator.

Sweet Home Charter School will be open to any student in grades kindergarten through eight residing in Miami-Dade County. District schools in close proximity to the charter school include:

School	Student Population	% Utilization (Permanent Capacity)	% Utilization (Permanent and Relocatable Capacity)	Number of Relocatables
Bel-Aire Elem.	678	104	95	10
Miami Heights Elem.	1,292	122	103	8
Cutler Ridge Elem.	1,112	95	93	1

School	Student Population	% Utilization (Permanent Capacity)	% Utilization (Permanent and Relocatable Capacity)	Number of Relocatables
Cutler Ridge Middle	1,451	110	94	8
Mays Middle	1,096	95	92	2
Richmond Heights Middle	1,615	104	82	7

Source: M-DCPS Report T0500P08-R1 dated November 9, 2002
M-DCPS School Profiles 2002-2003

Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, requires that the major issues involved in the operation of charter schools be considered in advance and written into a charter school contractual agreement between the charter school and the Sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.

Copies of the charter school contractual agreement will be placed on file and will be available for inspection in the School Board Members' office, in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, and in the Citizen Information Center.

RECOMMENDED: Recognizing that The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has previously approved this application, it is recommended that the Board grant approval of the:

1. proposed site; and
2. charter school contractual agreement with Sweet Home Community Builders, Inc., on behalf of Sweet Home Charter School, for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2003-2004 school year.

MB:dcr