

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER
 SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH MATER ACADEMY,
 INC., ON BEHALF OF MATER ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

On December 11, 2002, the School Board approved a charter school application submitted by Mater Academy Middle School. 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 January 31, 2003, and by unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the proposed site and the charter school contractual agreement with Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy Middle School.

Mater Academy Middle School will be located at 7901 NW 103 Street, Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016. The charter school will serve a maximum of 800 students in grades six through eight with 700 students in its first year of operation. The governing board will operate the school through a management contract with Academica Corporation, Fernando J. Zulueta, President.

The following is the Board for Mater Academy Middle School: Ruth Jacoby, Educator; Rolando Llanes, Architect; Alejandro Remos, General Contractor; Henri Pferdmenges, Banker; and a parent representative.

Mater Academy Middle School will be open to any student in grades six 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
Filer, H.H. Middle	1,620	109	88	12
Martí, José Middle	1,802	123	88	23
Milam, M.A. K-8	1,763	133	105	18
Palm Springs Middle	1,881	102	97	7

Source: School Operations

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 Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy Middle School, for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2003-2004 school year.

MB:dcr