

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

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

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

As per Section 1002.33(7)(b), Florida Statutes, a charter school contractual agreement may be renewed every five school years, and after demonstrating exemplary academic programming and fiscal management, is eligible for a 15-year charter renewal. Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Center Charter School commenced operations during the 1998-1999 school year under a contractual agreement for a term of three years, which was subsequently extended for an additional two years to expire on June 30, 2003. Commencing with the 2003-2004 school year, the charter school has requested that the contractual agreement be renewed for a term of 15 years and that the name of the school be changed to Mater Academy.

The Charter School Contract Review Committee met on February 7, 2003, and by a unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the renewal of the charter school contractual agreement and the name change.

Mater Center Charter School is located at 7700 NW 98 Street, Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016, and serves approximately 1,115 students in grades kindergarten through eight. The students in grades six through eight are housed at the campus of Mater Academy Charter High School located at 7901 NW 103 Street, Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016. The governing board operates the school through a management contract with Academica Corporation, Mr. Fernando J. Zulueta, President.

The following is the Governing Board for Mater Center Charter School: Alejandro Remos, Chair; Rolando Llanes, Member; Ruth Jacoby, Member; Henri Pferdmenges, Member; and Rita Del Puppo, Member.

Mater Center Charter School is 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
Dupuis, J.G. Elem.	938	117	108	8
Meadowlane Elem.	1,389	133	99	15
Sheppard, B. Elem.	1,628	147	98	38
Milam, M.A. K-8	1,763	133	105	18
Filer, H.H. Middle	1,620	109	88	12
Martí, José Middle	1,802	123	88	23

Source: School Operations

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

1. renew the charter school contractual agreement with Mater Academy, Inc. on behalf of Mater Academy for a term of 15 years, through the 2017-2018 school year; and
2. change the name of the school from Mater Center Charter School to Mater Academy.

MB:dcr