

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer  
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO HOST THE PROJECT 540 STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHER-SPONSORS AND TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE HILTON MIAMI AIRPORT HOTEL AND ITS REQUIRED SUBCONTRACTORS WITH AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$16,000**

**COMMITTEE:       EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS**

At the Board Meeting of April 17, 2002, the School Board approved Agenda Item B-66 and authorized the Superintendent to accept a grant award from Pew Charitable Trusts in the amount of \$100,000 to fund Project 540, a civic engagement initiative for senior high school students. As one of the required activities of the grant, students and teacher-sponsors from each of the 30 senior high schools participating in Project 540 during the 2002-2003 school year will participate in a Student Leadership Conference. This conference will provide a forum for showcasing the civic engagement efforts of participating schools and leadership skills training of students.

Authorization is requested to host the Student Leadership Conference on May 27, 2003. Authorization is also requested to enter into contractual agreements with the Hilton Miami Airport Hotel and its required subcontractors, with a cost not to exceed \$16,000. Subcontractors may be required to provide audio visual services. Grant funds will be used to meet the entire cost of the conference.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Other Federal Programs (Contracted Programs Fund) of the 2002-2003 Adopted Budget under Fund 0420, Function 6400, Program 3787, Object 5310, and Location 9626.

No local funds are required.

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

1. host the Project 540 Student Leadership Conference for students and teacher-sponsors; and
2. enter into contractual agreements with the Hilton Miami Airport Hotel and its required subcontractors for April 14, 2003, to provide facilities and services for the Project 540 Student Leadership Conference with a cost not to exceed \$16,000.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Other Federal Programs (Contracted Programs Fund) of the 2002-2003 Adopted Budget.

No local funds are required.