

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FUNDING UNDER THE FLORIDA MENTOR TEACHER PILOT PROGRAM AND ENTER INTO SEPARATE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE DOWNTOWN MIAMI CHARTER SCHOOL, INC., ON BEHALF OF DOWNTOWN MIAMI CHARTER SCHOOL AND THE MIAMI-DADE CHARTER FOUNDATION, INC., ON BEHALF OF NORTH COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) issued a Request for Proposals under the Public Charter School Federal Grant Program for the purpose of awarding grants to charter schools partnering with local educational agencies in order to provide a high quality education for all students.

The Florida Mentor Teacher Pilot Program provides funds only to those charter schools which have been approved by the local school district, and which have established a collaborative partnership for the oversight and operation of the charter schools. The project goal is to establish a five-step career ladder that will give outstanding teachers recognition and higher salaries. Funds received from this grant will be used to hire new teachers to implement the Florida Mentor Teacher Pilot Program.

All schools, including charter schools, were notified of this grant opportunity. Authorization is being requested to accept the grant award which will enable Downtown Miami Charter School and North County Charter School to implement the Florida Mentor Teacher Pilot Program.

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It is anticipated that the charter schools will receive the following funding amounts:

Charter School	Grant Type	Amount of Grant	Indirect Costs	Contract Amount
Downtown Miami Charter School	Florida Mentor Teacher Pilot Program	\$30,000	\$1,065	\$28,935
North County Charter School	Florida Mentor Teacher Pilot Program	\$30,000	\$1,065	\$28,935

In accordance with the FDOE grant guidelines, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) must be the fiscal agent on behalf of each of the charter schools that receive such grants. The Board's approval of the recommended action would not constitute an endorsement of the grants or its intended use. It would merely satisfy the Board's requirement under Florida Statutes, Section 1002.33, Charter Schools, which requires that M-DCPS serve as the fiscal agent.

Authorization is requested for M-DCPS to enter into separate contractual agreements with the aforementioned charter schools for the amounts indicated. The charter schools will be responsible for implementing the program outlined in their respective grant applications and for expending the grant funds.

No matching funds are required as a condition to receive the grant funding. Grant funds in the amount of \$60,000 for the two charter schools will be used for hourly personnel, field trips, and educational supplies.

Official notification of this grant award was received on April 7, 2003, which is after the start of the budget period. Reimbursement of grant-related expenditures is authorized effective March 28, 2003.

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

1. accept a grant award from the Florida Department of Education for funding the Florida Mentor Teacher Pilot Program in the amount of \$60,000 for the grant period of March 28, 2003 through June 30, 2004;
2. enter into separate contractual agreement with The Downtown Miami Charter School, Inc., on behalf of Downtown Miami Charter School, in an amount not to exceed \$28,935, and The Miami-Dade Charter Foundation, Inc., on behalf of North County Charter School, in an amount not to exceed \$28,935;
3. approve acceptance of this grant award in accordance with Section 1002.33 Florida Statutes, Charter Schools. This action is not an endorsement of the activities undertaken by charter schools;
4. extend this program and contractual agreements as authorized through official notification from the granting agency, in order to complete the goals of the program; and
5. direct Financial Affairs to establish appropriations in the amounts approved or as amended by the granting agency, such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board.

AMC/MB:mt

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BUDGET SUMMARY FORM



Yes
 No
 Are there any in-kind or matching funds required?

Entitlement Grant
 Non-Entitlement/Contract

GRANT/PROGRAM NAME: Florida Mentor Teacher Pilot Program

Grant Period Beginning March 28, 2003 Ending June 30, 2004
 (Date) (Date)

FUNCTION	Total Budget	Salaries (51XX)	Employee Benefits (52XX)	Purchased Services (53XX)	Energy Services (54XX)	Materials and Supplies (55XX)	Capital Outlay (56XX)	Other Expense (57XX)
INSTRUCTION SERVICES	57,870			57,870				
SUPPORT SERVICES:								
Pupil Personnel Services								
Instructional Media Services								
Instruction & Curriculum Development								
Instructional Staff Training								
Board of Education								
General Administration								
School Administration	2,130*							2,130*
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction								
Fiscal Services								
Food Services								
Central Services								
Transportation Services								
Operation of Plant								
Maintenance of Plant								
Community Services								
Debt								
TOTAL INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	60,000			57,870				2,130

*Includes Federal Indirect Costs of 2,130

Reviewed By [Signature]
 Division of Budget

Submitted for Board Approval/Authorization:

Agenda Item B-62 Board Meeting of May 14, 2003
 (Number) (Date)