

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer  
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:       REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY CENTRAL, INC., WHEREBY THE AGENCY WILL DESIGNATE FUNDING FOR DAYCARE SERVICES PROVIDED BY MIAMI LAKES EDUCATIONAL CENTER**

**COMMITTEE:    EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools is requesting a renewal of the contract with Family Central, Inc., which oversees daycare services in the northern part of the county. To be eligible for funding from Family Central, Inc., several criteria must be met:

- the requesting agency must be able to demonstrate a financial need based upon socioeconomic data endemic to the area in which the center is located;
- the clientele served must be parents who qualify for assistance under either the Job Training Partnership Act or the Work and Gain Economic Self-Sufficiency program;
- the daycare center must be licensed by the Florida Department of Children and Families; and
- the daycare center must receive a compliance score of at least 85 (out of 100) when evaluated by Family Central, Inc., or when using the standards outlined in the Child Development Assessment Tool.

The Miami Lakes Educational Center staff estimates that approximately \$150,000 will be needed for a period not to exceed 261 days of operation, based upon the number and ages of children served. The funds will provide food services, supplies, equipment, and salaries for part-time paraprofessionals. The daily program includes recreational, social, cultural, and educational activities. Parents will be encouraged to participate.

This contractual agreement with Family Central, Inc., has been in effect since 1998. As has been the case in previous contracts, the new agreement will be flexible, stipulating neither the number of children to be served nor the exact sum to be appropriated to the project. The contract will be effective July 9, 2003 through June 30, 2004.

Dr. Barbara A. Weinstein is the president and chief executive officer of Family Central, Inc.

There are no costs associated with this program since related expenses will be reimbursed by Family Central, Inc. Reimbursements for services rendered will ultimately be based upon monthly enrollments which differ according to number and age of the children.

**RECOMMENDED:**

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

1. enter into a contractual agreement, with Family Central, Inc., for daycare services provided by Miami Lakes Educational Center, effective July 9, 2003 through June 30, 2004; and
2. receive reimbursements of expenditures, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000, for services rendered.

CR/NJP/SM:rf