

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, INC., ON BEHALF OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR A TERM OF TEN YEARS

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

As established in School Board Rule 6Gx13-6A-1.47, Charter Schools (K-12), Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) received charter school applications from individuals and/or organizations in the community.

On October 20, 2003, M-DCPS Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for International Studies Charter High School and by a majority vote made a recommendation for approval of the application to the Superintendent of Schools.

The charter school proposes to serve a maximum of 1,000 students in grades nine through twelve, with 500 students in grades nine and ten in its first year of operation, commencing with the 2004-2005 school year, at a facility to be identified at a later time.

The following is the Founding Board for the charter school: Dr. Miguel Martinez Lopez, Director of Education, Consulate General of Spain; Mr. Pablo Mateu Garcia, Educator; Mr. Giuseppe Tiradritti, Director of Education, Italian Consulate General; and Mr. Victoire Di Rosa, Cultural Attache for Education, French Consulate.

Any pending issues identified by the Charter School District Review Committee in the recommended application, including minimizing the impact on district schools that are under-enrolled, will be addressed satisfactorily in the development of the charter school contractual agreement. The charter school contractual agreement will be submitted for School Board consideration at a subsequent meeting at which time there will be a public hearing to provide for community input.

Copies of the charter school application 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:

1. approve the application for International Studies Charter High School, Inc., on behalf of International Studies Charter High School; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2004-2005 school year, which reflects the contents of the application, as approved by the School Board.

RKF/MB/CR:dcr