

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
ACCEPT A DONATION OF SIXTEEN DIGITAL PIANOS ON A
YEARLY BASIS FROM THE ROLAND UNIVERSITY LAB TO BE
USED IN THE MUSIC SUITE AT WHISPERING PINES
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Whispering Pines Elementary School is recognized for its strong and broad music program. The Whispering Pines Chamber Singers, composed of students from every grade level, have delighted audiences across the nation. The school fosters a commitment to academic and musical excellence and serves as a shining example to other elementary music programs.

Through the diligence of Mr. Ron Simon, music teacher at Whispering Pines Elementary School, to support the music program at his school, the Roland University Lab has made a commitment to donate sixteen digital pianos on a yearly basis that will be used to promote music literacy. Students will have the opportunity to learn notation, create original compositions, record, and experiment in this genre. The music teacher at Whispering Pines Elementary School will be responsible for the delivery of this program. At the end of the school year, the pianos will be returned to the Roland University Lab, which will auction them as used pianos. New pianos will be delivered to the school at the beginning of the new school year.

This commitment constitutes a donation of over \$80,000. If this donation is accepted, a letter of appreciation will be sent to the donor.

The President of Roland University Lab is Mr. Dennis Houlihan.

No local funds are required.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to accept sixteen digital pianos on a yearly basis from the Roland University Lab to be used in the music suite at Whispering Pines Elementary School.

No local funds are required.

GMK/NSC/LG:sc