

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer  
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD RECEIVE THE REPORT  
DELINEATING RECOMMENDED STEPS AND TIMELINE FOR THE  
CONVERSION OF FRANK C. MARTIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO  
A K-8 CENTER**

**COMMITTEE:       EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS**

On December 13, 2000, the School Board received a report titled *Evaluation of the K-8 Centers Program*. The report presents the K-8 model as beneficial to all stakeholders involved. The report also recommends expansion of this model to other schools in the district.

The school community of Frank C. Martin Elementary School has expressed an interest in the conversion of this school from a K-5 to a K-8 center that will offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. As the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) does not currently authorize IB programs for the grade configuration proposed at Frank C. Martin Elementary School, the school will be unable to seek accreditation from the IBO until the organization grants the authorization.

On February 11, 2004, the School Board approved Agenda Item D-10, submitted by Ms. Betsy H. Kaplan, Board Member, directing the Superintendent to submit a report delineating the recommended steps and timeline for the conversion of Frank C. Martin Elementary School into a K-8 center that will offer the IB program. It is anticipated that the K-8 conversion, which will include the construction of a Middle Learning Center, will take approximately 28 to 36 months to complete, once funding has been approved.

Copies of the report will be transmitted to School Board Members under separate cover and are available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

**RECOMMENDED:**       That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, receive the report delineating the recommended steps and timeline for the conversion of Frank C. Martin Elementary School to a K-8 center.