

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT FUNDING IN AN
AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$845,000 FROM THE PANHANDLE
AREA EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR THE K-3 READING
FIRST SUMMER ACADEMIES TO BE HELD FROM JUNE 14, 2004
THROUGH JULY 16, 2004**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

The Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) received a federal grant under the *Reading First* Initiative to support literacy efforts for K-3 teachers throughout Florida. Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) received funds in the amount of \$845,000 to convene K-3 *Reading First* Summer Academies from June 14, 2004 through July 16, 2004.

M-DCPS will convene six 4-day K-3 *Reading First* Summer Academies. The K-3 *Reading First* Summer Academy content will prepare teachers to implement in their classrooms the five components of reading instruction identified by the National Reading Panel. The five components are phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension. All K-3 teachers are eligible to participate, and a maximum of 1,000 participants will be selected as determined by available space.

The district is responsible for facilitating the training. As the convening agency, M-DCPS will establish locations, provide technical assistance, conduct recruitment and registration of participants, and receive materials. The district collaborates with the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium, the single fiscal agent, in order to facilitate and expedite payment and reimbursement of teacher stipends not to exceed \$800,000. The convening agency is allocated \$7,500 per academy, for a total of \$45,000, to support administrative costs.

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

1. accept funding in an amount not to exceed \$845,000 from the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium for the K-3 *Reading First* Summer Academies to be held from June 14, 2004 through July 16, 2004; and
2. direct Financial Affairs to establish appropriations in the amount approved by the fiscal agent; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board.