

Rudolph F. Crew, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF SOUTH FLORIDA CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC., ON BEHALF OF TRANSITIONAL LEARNING ACADEMY AND AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR A TERM OF FIVE 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 4, 2004, M-DCPS Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for Transitional Learning Academy and by a unanimous vote made a recommendation for approval of the application to the Superintendent of Schools.

The charter school proposes to serve a maximum of 72 students in Exceptional Student Education programs in grades eight through twelve, with a maximum of 48 students in its first year of operation, commencing with the 2005-2006 school year, at a facility to be located at 1411 NW 14 Avenue, Miami, Florida 33125.

The following is the Founding Board for the charter school: Dr. Joseph A. Aniello, Educational Administrator and Executive; Dr. Debbie Terenzio, Educational Administrator; Dr. Leigh Kapps, Educational Administrator; Ms. Linda Gluck, Accountant; Ms. Kathleen T. Kelly, Human Resources Director; Mr. Roy R. Lustig, Attorney; Mr. Manuel Machin, Real Estate Consultant; Mr. Dwight Stephenson, Businessperson; Ms. Marta E. Morin, Educator; Ms. Ilene E. Wilkins, Businessperson; and Mr. Jack Schillinger, Retired Businessperson.

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 application 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:

1. approve the application for United Cerebral Palsy of South Florida Charter Schools, Inc., on behalf of Transitional Learning Academy; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement for a term of five years, commencing with the 2005-2006 school year through the conclusion of the 2009-2010 school year, which reflects the contents of the application as approved by the School Board.

RKF/MB/CR:dcr