

Office of Human Resources
Paul M. Cholak, Chief Personnel Officer

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS OF PERSONNEL NEW TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL SERVICES

The following recommended appointments reflect assignments of personnel, including Managerial Exempt Personnel (MEP) and professional and technical personnel (DCSAA) to the District. The MEP and DCSAA recommendations are made in accordance with Board Rules 6Gx13- 4A-1.16, 6Gx13- 4A-1.61, and the DCSAA labor contract. The assignments and appointments of personnel are a direct result of the Board-approved advertisement and selection process.

Dr. Sonia Diaz is recommended for appointment to the open budgeted position of Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, MEP pay grade 28. Dr. Diaz received a Doctor of Education Degree and a Master of Education Degree from Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, a Master of Arts Degree from University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Kent State University, Kent, Ohio. Dr. Diaz's extensive work history includes Superintendent of Schools, Bridgeport Board of Education, Bridgeport, Connecticut; Superintendent, Community School District One, New York City Board of Education, New York City, New York; Program Director, Brown University Providence Consortium, Providence, Rhode Island; Associate Director (Interim), Coordinator of Bilingual Staff Development, Principal, Humanities Department Head, Language Arts Department Head, Assistant Headmaster/Modern Foreign Languages, and Teacher, Boston Public Schools, Boston, Massachusetts; Intern to Superintendent, Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, Virginia, and Lecturer, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

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Mr. Martin A. Berkowitz is recommended for appointment to the open budgeted position of Chief Financial Officer, MEP pay grade 26, Office of Financial Operations. Mr. Berkowitz received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from St. John's University, Jamaica, New York. Mr. Berkowitz's extensive work history includes President and Chief Executive Officer, National Veterans Business Development Corporation, Alexandria, Virginia; Senior Vice President, Comptroller of the Insurance Business Unit, Chief Financial Officer of the Investment Management Business Unit, and Corporate Comptroller, Prudential Financial.

Ms. Olga C. Gary is recommended for appointment to the open budgeted position of District Director, Training and Development, MEP pay grade 23, Professional Development. Ms. Gary received a Juris Doctor Degree and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida. Ms. Gary's work history includes Program Specialist, Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention, Florida Department of Education, Tallahassee, Florida, and Associate, Thomas Gary & Associates, P.A., Coral Gables, Florida.

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Ms. Olga V. Bichachi is recommended for appointment to the open budgeted position of Director Community Outreach, MEP pay grade 21, Office of Public Information. Ms. Bichachi received a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish Literature and Phonetics and a Master's Degree in Applied Linguistics from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. Ms. Bichachi's work history includes Television News Reporter, ABC News/WPLG-TV, and Fox/WSVN-TV, Miami, Florida; Professor, Journalism, Barry University, Miami Shores, Florida; Teacher, Staff Specialist Parent Education, and Coordinator, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami, Florida; and Professor--English Composition, ESL, American Culture, Accent Reduction, University of Miami, St. Thomas University, Biscayne College, Mercy College, Miami Community College, Miami, Florida.

Mr. Jon Goodman is recommended for appointment to the open budgeted position of Director I Compliance Audits, DCSAA pay grade 45, Management and Compliance Audits. Mr. Goodman received a Bachelor's Degree in Finance from Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, in August 1986, and a Master's Degree in Accounting from Florida International University, Miami, Florida, in April 1998. Mr. Goodman's extensive work history includes Deputy Auditor General, City of Miami, Miami, Florida; Senior Auditor, School District of Palm Beach County, Florida; Senior Auditor, State of Florida, Office of the Auditor General, Miami, Florida; Assistant to the Vice President of Finance, SEL Maduro/Sea-Barge, Miami, Florida; and Management Associate, Barnett Bank of South Florida, Miami, Florida.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, appoint:

1. **Dr. Sonia Diaz** to the open budgeted position of Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, MEP pay grade 28, effective upon completion of background check; } REVISÉD
2. **Mr. Martin A. Berkowitz** to the open budgeted position of Chief Financial Officer, MEP pay grade 26, Office of Financial Operations, effective upon completion of background check;
3. **Ms. Olga C. Gary** to the open budgeted position of District Director, Training and Development, MEP pay grade 23, Professional Development, effective upon completion of background check; } REVISÉD
4. **Ms. Olga V. Bichachi** to the open budgeted position of Director Community Outreach, MEP pay grade 21, Office of Public Relations, effective November 17, 2004; and
5. **Mr. Jon Goodman** to the open budgeted position of Director I Compliance Audits, DCSAA pay grade 45, Management and Compliance Audits, effective December 6, 2004.

PMC:mtp