

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

**SUBJECT:       REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR LIFE SKILLS CENTER MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, INC., ON BEHALF OF LIFE SKILLS CENTER MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 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 13, 2004, M-DCPS Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for Life Skills Center Miami-Dade County 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 600 students in grades nine through twelve, with 300 students in its first year of operation, commencing with the 2005-2006 school year, at a location to be identified at a later time.

The following is the Founding Board for the charter school: Alicia Rodriguez-Bower, Educational Administrator; Ms. Simone Ruiz-Payne Narcis, Educational Consultant; Mr. Jose Antonio Loredo, Attorney; Ms. Dannie McMillon, Community Activist; Mr. William P. VanderWyden, Educational Administrator; and Ms. Judy Salvador, Consultant.

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.

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

1. approve the application for Life Skills Center Miami-Dade County, Inc., on behalf of Life Skills Center Miami-Dade County; 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