

Sonia E. Díaz, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE DIVISION OF BLIND SERVICES, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO PROVIDE A COOPERATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Division of Blind Services, Florida Department of Education, to provide a cooperative school program for blind and visually impaired students, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. This cooperative agreement has been in effect since 1967.

The Division of Blind Services provides: medical, psychological, and psychiatric evaluations; vocational placement; post-secondary services; and personal management skills to approximately 200 blind and visually impaired students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. These services may be provided at any time during the school year, either in the student's home or in a school, as mutually agreed upon by personnel from the District and the Division of Blind Services.

The Director of the Division of Blind Services is Ms. Gail Sterner.

No local funds are required.

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

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with the Division of Blind Services, Florida Department of Education, to provide a cooperative school program for blind and visually impaired students, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006; and
2. extend the cooperative agreement for a maximum of two additional one-year periods.

No local funds required.