

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

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO  
ACCEPT FUNDS THROUGH A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT  
WITH THE EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF MIAMI-DADE/  
MONROE TO PROVIDE SUBSTITUTE COVERAGE FOR  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION FEE-SUPPORTED AND TITLE I PRE-  
KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS**

**COMMITTEE:       INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Legislation enacted by the Florida Legislature entitled the School Readiness Act of 1999, Florida Statute 411.01, created the Florida Partnership for School Readiness Board to provide a unified approach to coordinate and enhance school readiness programs in the state. To fulfill the intent of this legislation, the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELCMD/M), a not-for-profit organization, was formed. Its purpose is to implement and to evaluate an integrated and seamless service delivery system for all publicly funded early childhood and care programs in Miami-Dade County. To advance this mission, the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade Monroe (ELCMD/M), formerly known as the Miami-Dade School Readiness Coalition, and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) became partners in the assessment of four-year old students.

During the fall of the 2004-2005 school year, prekindergarten students enrolled in the Community Education Fee-Supported and Title I Prekindergarten Programs were pre-assessed with the Learning Accomplishment Profile-Diagnostic (LAP-D) assessment. The LAP-D assesses cognitive, language, mathematics, and motor skills development. This assessment, which guides and focuses instruction for greater achievement, is also used by school readiness programs funded through the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe.

In support of this effort, the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe is providing funding not to exceed \$70,000 to Miami-Dade County Public Schools through a contractual agreement. These funds will be used for substitute coverage for full-time Community Education Fee-Supported and Title I prekindergarten teachers who will perform the post-assessment using LAP-D in April 2005. All those students who were pre-assessed will participate in the post assessment.

**C-42**

The President and CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe is Mrs. Paula S. Bender.

Based on the contractual agreement between M-DCPS and ELCMD/M, reimbursement of contract-related expenditures is authorized effective March 17, 2005.

No local funds are required.

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

1. accept funds through a contractual agreement with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe, in an amount not to exceed \$70,000, to provide substitute coverage for Community Education Fee-Supported and Title I pre-kindergarten teachers effective March 17, 2005 through June 30, 2005; and
2. direct Financial Affairs to establish revenues and appropriations not to exceed \$70,000; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board.

No local funds are required.

LCR/MEM:vw