

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

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH SELECTED BUSINESS SITES TO FACILITATE THE OPERATION OF PROJECT VICTORY SCHOOL-TO-WORK PROGRAMS FOR EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into cooperative agreements with selected business sites to facilitate the operation of Project Victory's school-to-work programs for exceptional student education (ESE) students, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. The first cooperative agreements for the program were approved by the School Board in 1986.

Project Victory is designed for senior high school ESE students who are pursuing special diplomas and are at-risk for dropping out of school. The program is for students age 16 or older and involves non-paid work experiences at selected community businesses. Students receive course credits in employability skills while participating in a half-day, teacher-directed field experience at selected business sites throughout the District.

During the 2004-2005 school year, ESE students from 33 senior high schools participated at 18 Project Victory business sites as part of this school-to-work program. Additional business sites and schools can be added as needed.

Copies of the cooperative agreements 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.

There is no exchange of funds.

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

1. enter into cooperative agreements with selected business sites to facilitate the operation of Project Victory school-to-work programs for exceptional students, effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006; and
2. extend the cooperative agreement for a maximum of two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.

RKF/BB:jf