

Ava G. Byrne, Deputy Superintendent  
Professional Development

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL CHANGE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$160,000.00, TO PRESENT INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

**COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY**

On February 16, 2005, the School Board approved Agenda Item D – 7 accepting the professional development framework designed to support the STELLAR initiative. A primary feature of the framework is a five-day Summer Instructional Leadership Academy for school teams consisting of the principal, an assistant principal and another school leader. A maximum of thirty schools from STELLAR and School Improvement Zone schools will have the opportunity to send a team to the Academy. The Academy will be held June 20 - 24, 2005.

The Academy will promote outstanding shared leadership skills that foster and motivate increased student achievement. The weeklong experience will include interactive presentations and intensive workshops from nationally recognized experts on leadership, teaching and learning. Under the guidance of mentors assigned to school leadership team members, each participant will develop a personal Instructional Leadership Plan tailored to address school site needs as determined through data. Participants will learn to analyze student reading and mathematical skills and build faculty relationships that insure continuous improvement in their schools. During the year following the Academy, mentors will provide direct support, coaching and online follow-up to continue the work begun during the Academy.

The Council for Educational Change has designed the Academy curriculum. The Council is a statewide non-profit organization that focuses on leadership to improve student achievement and critical education issues. The Council is the successor organization of the South Florida Annenberg Challenge Initiative. The Academy curriculum is modeled from the Florida Principal Standards, the Florida Professional Development Evaluation Protocol and the current DELTA initiative emphasizing the importance of developing a community of leaders, providing context, content and process learning in instructional leadership, implementing data driven school improvement and building school teams through effective professional development.

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The total cost of the proposed contract with the Council for Educational Change is \$160,000.00. This amount includes fees for program speakers, consultants, mentors, year-long follow-up support, electronic tools, leadership assessment instruments, facility expenses and access to instructional leadership modules. In addition, upon completion of the Academy training, participants will be eligible to apply for three graduate credits in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

The Professional Services Contract Committee, established by School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021, reviewed the proposed contracted services on March 17, 2005, and recommended granting an exception to the rule regarding the submission of competing bids in light of the specific expertise of the Council for Educational Exchange.

The appropriation for this item is included in the 2004-2005 Title II, Part A, Teachers and Principals Training and Recruiting Fund grant budget under Fund 0420, Function 6400, Program 3596, Object 5390, and Work Location 9017.

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the Council for Educational Change in an amount not to exceed \$160,000.00; and
2. grant an exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Other Federal programs (Contracted Programs Fund) of the 2004-2005 Adopted Budget.

AGB/cm