

Business Operations  
Ofelia San Pedro, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CELT CORPORATION TO DEVELOP THE DISTRICT'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FIVE-YEAR PLAN; AND AUTHORIZE CHANGES TO THE FACILITIES FIVE-YEAR WORK PROGRAM TO FUND THIS PROJECT FROM CENTRAL CONTINGENCY IN THE GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND FUND AND INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS IN PROGRAM 0911 TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000. THE REMAINING \$350,000 FOR THIS PROJECT IS INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL FUND AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS OF THE 2004-05 ADOPTED BUDGET**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

At the School Board meeting of December 15, 2004, the Board approved the Superintendent's recommendation to request proposals from technology firms to assist the District in preparation of an Information Technology (IT) Five-Year Plan. This planning effort has been recommended to improve alignment with essential student programs, school operations, business functions, and information technology systems to maximize student learning. We recognize the need for careful planning to ensure effective and cost-efficient use of technology for increased student performance and enhanced systems productivity.

The objectives of the planning process are:

- A review of the existing technology resources including a needs assessment with the total dollar amount required to meet all of the District's IT requirements
- A review of current and projected instructional technology initiatives
- Discussions with key stakeholder groups regarding existing and future technology needs
- A review and replacement plan of legacy business systems
- Identification of strategies that support teaching and learning as well as opportunities for professional growth using technologies
- Design strategies of improving the efficiency of instructional management and decision support through technology applications

The culmination of this planning will be the development of a comprehensive Information Technology Plan that will serve as a roadmap for Miami-Dade Public Schools in implementing an integrated technology infrastructure that: a) supports

learning and academic achievement in the classrooms, b) equips staff with the requisite data about student learning to make informed instructional decisions and meets stringent reporting and accountability mandates; c) provides equitable access, use, and support of information technology resources for all students; d) empowers students with 21<sup>st</sup> century information literacy skills needed to compete in an information based global economy; and, e) improves business processes and workflow.

Five companies responded to the request for quotations that was issued in December to the pre-approved technology firms in the software consultant bid. Staff reviewed and weighted the proposals and selected two companies to present their proposal at a meeting of the newly established Information Technology Steering Committee. As a result of the presentations and the review of the proposals, CELT Corporation was selected to aid the District in preparing a five-year technology blueprint.

The IT Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2003/04 through 2005/06 was approved by the School Board at the January, 2004 Board meeting. This plan provided the cost and implementation plans of the foundation projects needed by the District in order to provide the technology necessary to support many of the requirements going forward. The requested Five-Year Plan will continue the work of this initial plan and provide the assessment and cost of the technology needed for both instructional and non-instructional projects.

The Superintendent is seeking approval to engage CELT Corporation to assist the District in the preparation of the Information Technology Five-Year Plan. The cost of this engagement will not exceed \$500,000. This is to request authorizing changes to the Facilities Five-Year Work Program to fund this project from central contingency in the General Obligation Bond fund and increase appropriations in Program 0911 Technology Enhancements.

Partial funding for this project (\$350,000) is included in the 2004-05 Adopted Budget in the General Fund under Location 9412, Program 9045, Function 6400, Object 5390 and Special Revenue Funds under Location 9412, Program 3198, Function 6400, and Object 5390. The remaining balance of \$150,000 will be appropriated from central contingency of the General Obligation Bond fund.

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

- 1) authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual services agreement with CELT Corporation to develop the District's Information Technology Five-Year Plan; and
- 2) authorize changes to the Facilities Five-Year Work Program to fund this project from central contingency in the General Obligation Bond fund and increase appropriations in Program 0911 Technology Enhancements in the amount of \$150,000. The remaining \$350,000 for this project is included in the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds of the 2004-05 Adopted Budget.