

May 4, 2005

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

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE FOURTH
 AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL
 AGREEMENT WITH THE DOWNTOWN MIAMI CHARTER
 SCHOOL, INC., ON BEHALF OF DOWNTOWN MIAMI CHARTER
 SCHOOL**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, states that a charter school contractual agreement may be modified during its initial term or any renewal term upon the recommendation of the sponsor and the approval of both parties to the agreement.

The initial charter school contractual agreement for Downtown Miami Charter School was approved by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, on February 13, 2002, for a term of 10 years, commencing with the 2002-2003 school year. Subsequent amendments have allowed for increases in enrollment capacity and grade level configurations.

Downtown Miami Charter School is located at 305 NW Third Avenue, Miami, Florida 33128, and serves approximately 592 students in grades kindergarten through seven. In the 2003-2004 school year, the school received a grade of "F" under Florida's A+ Plan for Education. The most recent financial audit revealed two audit findings. The school is managed by Charter Schools USA.

Downtown Miami Charter School has requested a fourth amendment to allow the school to reduce the grade levels from kindergarten through grade eight to kindergarten through grade six, commencing in the 2005-2006 school year and throughout the term of the contract which expires on June 30, 2012, and concludes in the 2011-2012 school year.

The Charter School Contract Review Committee (CRC) met on March 29, 2005, and by a unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the fourth amendment to the charter school contractual agreement with Downtown Miami Charter School, Inc., on behalf of Downtown Miami Charter School.

Copies of the amendment to the charter school contractual agreement will be transmitted to School Board Members under separate cover and 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.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, grant approval of the fourth amendment to the charter school contractual agreement with The Downtown Miami Charter School, Inc., on behalf of Downtown Miami Charter School to reduce the grade levels from kindergarten through grade eight to kindergarten through grade six, commencing in the 2005-2006 school year and throughout the term of the contract which expires on June 30, 2012 and concludes in the 2011-2012 school year.

RKF/MB/CR:dcr