

May 4, 2005

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH THE DORAL ACADEMY, INC., ON BEHALF OF THE DORAL ACADEMY

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 The Doral Academy was approved by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, on June 23, 1999, for a term of five years, commencing with the 1999-2000 school year. The contractual agreement was renewed on January 15, 2004, for a term of 15 years pursuant to Section 1002.33(7)(b), Florida Statutes. A first amendment was approved on May 19, 2004, to allow the school to operate a second campus at a facility located at 8750 NW 21 Terrace, Doral, Florida 33172, commencing with the 2004-2005 school year.

Securing the necessary permits to allow the use of the building as an educational facility has been unsuccessful, and the District has been notified that it is no longer the intention that a second campus at that location be operated. The contractual agreement is being amended to eliminate references to the second campus location.

The Doral Academy is located at 2450 NW 97 Avenue, Doral, Florida 33172, and serves approximately 795 students in grades kindergarten through five. In the 2003-2004 school year, the school received a grade of "A" under Florida's A+ Plan for Education. The most recent financial audit revealed two audit findings. The school is managed by Academica Corporation.

The Charter School Contract Review Committee (CRC) met on March 29, 2005, and by a unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the second amendment to the charter school renewal contract with The Doral Academy, Inc., on behalf of The Doral Academy.

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 second amendment to the charter school renewal contract with The Doral Academy, Inc., on behalf of The Doral Academy, to eliminate the second campus location at 8750 NW 21 Street, Doral, Florida 33172.

RKF/MB/CR:dcr