

Ava G. Byrne, Deputy Superintendent
Office of Professional Development

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT REVISED
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADD-ON
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR READING ENDORSEMENT
TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR
REVIEW AND CONTINUATION OF APPROVAL**

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

Authorization is requested to submit the revised Miami-Dade County Public Schools Add-on Certification Program for Reading Endorsement to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) for review and approval. This program allows teachers currently certified in elementary education or other academic subject areas to extend their certification coverage through inservice education and/or college coursework in order to obtain the Reading Endorsement. The Add-on Certification Program will serve to increase the number of teachers endorsed as teachers of reading and it will assist teachers in meeting requirements pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act.

The Add-on Certification Program for Reading Endorsement has been revised to include the following additional methods by which teachers may satisfy coursework requirements:

1. The establishment of a Reading Endorsement Content Review Committee, consisting of representatives from the Office of Professional Development and the Division of Language Arts/Reading, to review college and/or university coursework submitted by M-DCPS teachers to meet endorsement requirements;
2. The inclusion of mechanisms enabling teachers to satisfy coursework requirements at the specific objective level, in lieu of the broader competency level; and
3. The implementation of a review process to assess the applicability of coursework completed through alternate delivery mechanisms to meet endorsement requirements (e.g., inservice training provided through public school districts, commercially-produced course content available in digital and online formats, etc.).

The Office of Professional Development, in cooperation of the Division of Language Arts/Reading and partner institutions will offer courses to obtain the endorsement.

Copies with information regarding the program will be transmitted to School Board Members under separate cover and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132

Courses provided through the district's Add-on Certification Program are funded through the Title II Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund grant. No additional local funding will be required to implement the program.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorize the Superintendent to submit the revised Add-on Certification Program for Reading Endorsement for review and approval by the Florida Department of Education.

No additional local funds are required to implement the program.

AGB:gpq