

August 3, 2005

Rudolph F. Crew, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECEIVE THE COMPENDIUM REPORT ENTITLED, *TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT: STUDENT-CENTERED EXEMPLARS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL REFORM PRINCIPLES IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS*

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

On March 16, 2005, the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approved the Superintendent's initiative entitled, *Miami-Dade County Public Schools Secondary School Reform Framework*. As the foundation for this reform initiative, the Secondary School Reform Committee adapted the Advocacy Framework Model developed by the National High School Alliance. This framework is intended "...to catalyze and sustain the transition of secondary schools into learning environments that actively support excellence, equity, and the development of all students."

To achieve this, the National High School Alliance model is based on six core principles:

- ◆ personalized learning environments;
- ◆ academic engagement of all students;
- ◆ empowered educators;
- ◆ accountable leaders;
- ◆ engaged community and youth; and
- ◆ integrated system of high standards, curriculum, instruction, assessments, and supports.

The compendium report, *Terms of Engagement: Student-Centered Exemplars of Secondary School Reform Principles in Miami-Dade County Public Schools* captures these core principles at work in selected programs throughout our district's secondary schools. Twenty-two (22) senior high school, middle school, alternative school, and specialized learning center programs are featured in this report, developed by the Office of Accountability and Systemwide Performance. The programs reflect best practices which highlight the application of data-driven decisions; strong, positive leadership; and the dedication of stakeholders determined to support students in increasingly high performing learning environments.

A-5

Lessons Learned: Remarkable Transformation Stories in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools, a compendium report submitted to the Board on March 16, 2005, featured success stories sampling knowledge captured at 29 elementary schools. Similarly, *Terms of Engagement: Student-Centered Exemplars of Secondary School Reform Principles in Miami-Dade County Public Schools* describes programs, identified in Attachment A, that are demonstrating that middle and high school students can achieve when they are active participants in their own learning, receive instruction from a qualified learning community, and support from all stakeholders. Both documents celebrate student achievement and serve as challenges for *all* staff and students to meet high academic standards which are the foundation for success in school and in life. As the district deepens its reform of secondary education during the 2005-2006 school year, this document will help us cull the best elements of our existing programs and ensure that they become an integral part of the curriculum for all students.

Copies of the compendium report entitled, *Terms of Engagement: Student-Centered Exemplars of Secondary School Reform Principles in Miami-Dade County Public Schools* will be transmitted to the School Board Members under separate cover and will be placed on file in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33132.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, receive the compendium report entitled, *Terms of Engagement: Student-Centered Exemplars of Secondary School Reform Principles in Miami-Dade County Public Schools*.

KC:cl

ATTACHMENT A

The secondary school programs featured in this compendium report include the following:

- **American Marketing Management and Sports Entertainment-AM² ASE**
American Senior High School
- **Drama Program**
G. Holmes Braddock Senior High School
- **Center for International Education**
G.W. Carver Middle School
- **Mega-Magnet Model**
Coral Reef Senior High School
- **Fashion Design Magnet**
Design & Architecture Senior High School (DASH)
- **Band Program**
Homestead Middle School
- **Biomedical and Environmental Agriculture Technology Program (B.E.A.T.)**
John F. Kennedy Middle School
- **Inclusion Program**
H.D. McMillan Middle School
- **Specialized Outreach Center**
Merrick Educational Center
- **Academy of Hospitality and Tourism (AOHT)**
Miami Beach Senior High School
- **Law Magnet**
Miami Carol City Senior High School
- **Project ArtSouth**
Miami Douglas Mac Arthur South
- **Child Center Program (C.A.R.E.S.)**
Miami Norland Senior High School
- **PAVAC Magnet Program**
Miami Northwestern Senior High School
- **Eight Period Day**
Miami Senior High School
- **Accountability for All Youth**
Miami Springs Senior High School
- **Comprehensive Academy High School Model of Excellence**
Robert Morgan Senior High School
- **Biomedical and Environmental Advancement Magnet**
North Miami Beach Senior High School
- **Specialized Learning Center**
Robert Renick Education Center
- **Biomedical Academy**
South Dade Senior High School
- **Technical Arts Program**
William H. Turner Technical Arts High School
- **Academy Model**
Felix Varela Senior High School