

Alberto M. Carvalho, Associate Superintendent  
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration and Community Services

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE BOARD, INC., FROM JULY 1, 2005, THROUGH MARCH 30, 2006, TO PROVIDE A STAY-IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM IN EIGHT SELECTED MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE:       INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Stay-in-School Program (SIS), funded by South Florida Workforce Board, Inc., (SFW) has been recognized as one of the most effective dropout prevention programs in the country. South Florida Workforce Board, Inc., (SFW) provides services to at-risk in-school youth through the SIS Program. The initiative has improved school attendance, decreased school suspensions, and improved grade point averages for participating high schools and the District as a whole. The District and SFW have had a cooperative agreement since 1986.

Authorization is sought to enter into a cooperative agreement with SFW, to continue to provide a Stay-in-School Program in eight selected senior high schools. The SIS is a comprehensive, year-round, multi-year dropout prevention program that targets high school youth who are most at-risk of dropping out of school and who also meet federal poverty guidelines.

The SIS Program is proposed to be housed in eight Miami-Dade County Public Schools, which serve communities with high need, as measured by the at-risk profile developed by SFW. In addition to the SFW selection profile, Stellar and Zone schools have been given high priority consideration to provide additional support to students as identified by the at-risk profile, as well as the level of commitment each school is willing to make to the program including: space, furnishings, telephone lines and other equipment for the Stay-in-School counseling team; staffing to facilitate the work of the Stay-in-School counselors; and other resources to support the program. The eight recommended senior high schools are Hialeah, Homestead, Miami Carol City, Miami Jackson, Miami Northwestern, Miami Southridge, North Miami and South Dade.

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Copies of the 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 the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

Ms. Edith Humes-Newbold is the Executive Director of the South Florida Workforce Board, Inc.

There is no exchange of funds.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with South Florida Workforce Board, Inc., from July 1, 2005, through March 30, 2006, to provide a Stay-in-School Program in eight selected Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and
2. extend this program as authorized through official notification from the granting agency, in order to complete the goals of the program.

There is no exchange of funds

AMC/LDB/gj