

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
OVERTOWN YOUTH CENTER, INC. (OYC), TO PROVIDE
MENTORING SERVICES FOR SELECTED STUDENTS,
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The vision of the Overtown Youth Center, Inc. (OYC), is to serve as an integral part of the community by delivering enrichment services that foster hope and promote lifelong learning and success for inner-city youth. Anticipated outcomes include reducing truancy and crime, increasing parent involvement, and supporting academic success and self-determination. This agreement has been in effect since 2003.

One of the goals of the OYC includes mentoring approximately 175 at-risk students who live in the Overtown area in order to promote a stronger sense of self. The schools are recommended based on their location within the Overtown community. Staff from the six schools collaborate in the process of selecting students based on academic and financial need.

Authorization is requested to enter into a cooperative agreement with the OYC to provide mentoring services for selected students at Frederick Douglass, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, and Phillis Wheatley Elementary Schools; as well as their respective secondary schools including Citrus Grove and Jose de Diego middle schools, and Booker T. Washington Senior High School. Authorization is also requested for the Superintendent to extend this agreement annually for a maximum of two additional one-year periods, culminating on June 30, 2008.

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 925, and the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

The Executive Director of the Overtown Youth Center, Inc., is Ms. Carla Penn.

There is no exchange of funds.

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

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with the Overtown Youth Center, Inc. (OYC), to provide mentoring services for selected students, effective July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006; and
2. extend the cooperative agreement annually for a maximum of two additional one-year periods, through June 30, 2008.

There is no exchange of funds.

AMC/LDB/gj