

August 24, 2005

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH MIAMI DADE COLLEGE (MDC) TO PROVIDE DESIGNATED SERVICES FOR THE TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN (TSIC) MIAMI DADE COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006, AND TO ACCEPT FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED \$65,000

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Miami Dade College (MDC) to provide designated services for the Take Stock in Children (TSIC) Miami Dade College Partnership Program, effective July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006, and to accept funds not to exceed \$65,000. The funds will be used to support one full-time Curriculum Support Specialist (CSS) to serve as a TSIC advocate, and one part-time data input specialist. The CSS will monitor academic progress, conduct skill-building activities, provide case management for students requiring intervention, and communicate with parents in order to keep them informed.

Take Stock in Children is a statewide 501(c)3 organization formed to provide support for students who meet identified criteria, including low socio-economic status and other at-risk factors. The services for the students include support from the CSS, the placement of a mentor, and the opportunity to earn a college or vocational scholarship if they adhere to the program guidelines and complete the program as a high school graduate. Since the inception of the program in the District in 1999, over 400 students from 62 schools have graduated and received TSIC scholarships through the Florida Prepaid 2+2 Scholarship.

The program mentors are recruited by the TSIC staff and the CSS. Mentors receive a fingerprint background check as a Level 3 volunteer with Miami-Dade County Public Schools. They are matched with students, in cooperation with school staff, based on similar interests, preference of location, and/or age of the student. Once matched, they coach and tutor the students on school grounds, under the supervision of the identified staff member monitoring the program. Their role is to encourage and nurture the

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student, to assist the student in problem solving, assist with academics as needed, and to work with school counselors when issues of social service support need to be addressed.

The program is evaluated annually through surveys distributed to parents, students, mentors, and school staff. Goals and objectives are reviewed quarterly through a written report prepared by the TSIC director at Miami Dade College and forwarded to the state TSIC office for review by the Board of Directors. This program will be managed by the Office of Community Services.

The funds, not to exceed \$65,000, will cover the base salary of the CSS and data input specialist. M-DCPS will provide funds not to exceed \$18,350 to cover fringe and health benefits.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 2005-2006 Tentative Budget to be recommended for final adoption in September 2005, under Fund 0100, Function 6120, Program 9298, Object 5210, and Location 9619.

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

1. enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Miami Dade College (MDC) to provide designated services for the Take Stock in Children (TSIC) Miami Dade College Partnership Program, effective July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006;
2. accept funds not to exceed \$65,000;
3. extend this program as authorized through official notification from the granting agency, in order to complete the goals of the program; and
4. allocate one full-time Curriculum Support Specialist (CSS) for the purpose of providing support services to students in the program and one part-time data input specialist.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 2005-2006 Tentative Budget to be recommended for final adoption in September 2005, under Fund 0100, Function 6120, Program 9298, Object 5210, and Location 9619.

AMC/LDB/gj