

Business, Operations, Finance and Construction  
Ofelia San Pedro, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: CERTIFICATION FOR 2005-2006 CLASSROOMS FOR KIDS PROGRAM  
AND APPROVAL OF PROJECT ALLOCATION LIST**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

In November 2002, Florida voters passed a constitutional amendment (Amendment 9) requiring school class sizes to be capped by the 2010 school year as follows:

Instructional Grade	Class Size
K-3	18
4-8	22
9-12	25

In response, the 2003 legislature created the Classrooms for Kids program to fund the construction of student stations for this purpose. Pursuant to Section 1013.735, and as funded through the General Appropriations Act, Chapter 2003-397, Laws of Florida, Miami-Dade was previously allocated \$45,557,948 (or approx. 8%) of the \$570 million statewide 2003-2004 Classrooms for Kids Program appropriation, \$4,984,664 (or approx. 5%) of the \$100 million statewide 2004-2005 Classrooms for Kids Program appropriation, and an additional increase in 2004-05 of \$323,778, resulting from the 2003-04 penalty for failing to meet the Class Size Reduction in grades 9-12. For the current 2005-06 fiscal year, and as funded through the General Appropriations Act, Chapter 2005-290, Laws of Florida, Miami-Dade was allocated \$4,116,344 (or approx. 5%) of the \$83.4 million statewide 2005-06 Classrooms for Kids Program appropriation. To meet the State's class size mandate, the District needs more than \$600 million in capital outlay funding (see attached letter). The letter is intended to clarify our understanding that the State has an obligation to fund these capital costs.

The Office of Budget Management, in collaboration with Facilities, has completed the attached required FDOE certification and project allocation list for participation in the program.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the submission of the required certification for the 2005-2006 appropriation for Classrooms for Kids Program and the project allocation list detailing the capital project to be funded from this program.



**Miami-Dade County Public Schools**

*giving our students the world*

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

**Miami-Dade County School Board**

Frank J. Bolaños, Chair  
Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Vice Chair  
Agustin J. Barrera  
Evelyn Langlieb Greer  
Perla Tabares Hantman  
Dr. Martin Karp  
Ana Rivas Logan  
Dr. Marta Pérez  
Dr. Solomon C. Stinson

October 19, 2005

Mr. William Fontaine  
Office of Educational Facilities Budgeting  
325 Gaines West Gaines Street, Suite 1004  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Re: Board Certification for 2005-2006 Classrooms for Kids Program of  
The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida

Dear Mr. Fontaine:

Enclosed is the referenced certification. The Board is able to make this certification solely because the District's five-year plan for construction anticipates sufficient local funding to meet the class size requirements. Were the State to meet its obligation to fund the capital costs of the class size requirements, some of the local funds could be used for needed capital improvements to existing facilities.

A review of the District's records reveals that, to date, the State has funded only a small portion of the capital costs incurred to meet the current class size requirements. We will require more than \$600 million of capital outlay to meet the class size mandate. These funds are reflected in our five year plan. We believe that the class size constitutional amendment requires the State to do substantially more, and we are hopeful that future appropriations will more adequately reflect this obligation.

Sincerely,

The School Board of Miami-Dade, County, Florida

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

## Board Certification for 2005-2006 Classrooms for Kids Program

The Classrooms for Kids Program, as established by the 2003 Legislature, requires certain representations to enable each district school board to participate in the program. The following acknowledgment and certification statements are provided to enable participation.

1. The   Miami-Dade   District School Board hereby acknowledges that participation shall not be provided unless the interlocal agreement required by Section 1013.33, Florida Statutes, has been entered into.

2. The   Miami-Dade   District School Board certifies that the district facilities records within the Florida Inventory of School Houses are accurate and up-to-date pursuant to Section 1013.31, Florida Statutes.

3. The   Miami-Dade   District School Board, if selecting a specific project for funding from the Classrooms for Kids Program which appeared in the Board's five-year work program, commits to funding another project or projects with equivalent student capacity from fund sources listed in the five-year work program adopted prior to March 15, 2005. The attached project list is hereby approved by the Board as the Board's spending plan for funds made available pursuant to the Classrooms for Kids Program.

4. The   Miami-Dade   District School Board;

represents and certifies  
 does not represent

that sufficient student capacity exists within the district's current facilities plus the additional facilities the district will acquire from its five-year work program to meet the 2010-2011 maximum constitutional class size requirements. If these class size requirements are met, the district may use the Classrooms for Kids funds for any lawful capital outlay purpose which is further permitted as an eligible expenditure from General Revenue funds.

Attachments: Classrooms for Kids Project Allocation List  
Estimated Cash Draw Schedule

The above certification document was approved by the Board on   October 19, 2005    
(Date)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Superintendent)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)

