

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum, Instruction, and School Improvement

**SUBJECT: REPORT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, ANALYSIS OF SCHOOLS WITH 15% OR MORE
SUBGROUP STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

At its September 7, 2005, meeting, the School Board approved Item B-7, proffered by Evelyn Langlieb Greer, which directed the Superintendent to review a comprehensive analysis of the distribution of subgroup students with disabilities (SWD) and the transportation services provided to schools with a SWD population of 15% or more. Item B-7 requested that “the Superintendent review the distribution of exceptional student services and populations across District schools and determine whether to restructure ESE programs in order to provide more personal services to smaller populations and so the ESE students do not have to travel long distances to receive needed services.”

In response to this Board action, staff from the Office of Special Education, Alternative Outreach, and Psychological Services; the Regional Centers; Assessment and Data Analysis; Research Services; and the Department of Transportation collaborated to review data and develop this report, *Analysis of Schools with 15% or More Subgroup Students with Disabilities*. The following recommendations are contained in the report:

- The District should ensure through the IEP process that SWD are provided placements in the least restrictive environment at or in close proximity to their home schools.
- The District should implement the proposed cost-effective two-year plan of action that takes into account the fiscal impact of the movement of SWD who are placed at or in close proximity to their home schools.

Year I: 2006-2007 of the recommended two-year plan of action to move SWD from six schools is cost neutral. The projected cost for year II: 2007-2008 of the recommended two-year plan of action to move SWD from 19 schools will be \$5,050,747. These additional funds are for materials, equipment, supplies, personnel, and related services in order to support the movement of SWD. By 2008, approximately 669 of 2,323 SWD attending 37 of the 48 schools referenced in the plan will be served at or in close proximity to their home schools.

As reported in the February 2005 FEFP Transportation Survey, the District transported 7,128 SWD. Approximately 77% of SWD are transported to schools less than five (5) miles from their homes. The majority of SWD are transported to their home or proximity schools that provide the services as determined by their individual educational plans (IEPs).

Copies of *Analysis of Schools with 15% or More Subgroup Students with Disabilities* will be transmitted to the 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.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, receive the report, *Analysis of Schools with 15% or More Subgroup Students with Disabilities*.

LCR/BB:jf