

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO IMPLEMENT THE DISTRICT-WIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE *SUMMER HEAT 2006* AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE DELIVERY OF SPECIALIZED SERVICES

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The *Summer HEAT 2006* professional development initiative supports the goals and objectives set forth in the district's strategic plan and provides direction for professional learning during the 2006-2007 school year. *Summer HEAT 2006* expands and improves upon the systemic shift in professional development launched through the *Summer HEAT 2005* initiative. The professional learning activities proposed in the initiative reflect current research demonstrating that effective professional development positively impacts student achievement if it:

- Aligns with district goals;
- Provides demonstration lessons for participants to view the concepts learned as they may be applied and enables them to practice newly acquired skills and obtain feedback;
- Incorporates on-going follow-up support to extend the learning into the workplace.

Instructional Opportunities

Summer HEAT 2006 will provide learning opportunities serving approximately 5,500 instructional personnel including teachers, counselors, library media specialists, school psychologists and social workers. Four one-week district sponsored academies and/or institutes for instructional personnel will be offered each week from June 5, through June 30, 2006. Teachers will receive a daily stipend in the amount of \$175 for participation in an academy. The academies will be held at three senior high schools located in northern, central and southern areas of the county.

In addition to the district sponsored academies, teachers may elect to participate in several university institutes. Participants attending a university institute will receive three graduate credits from the university in lieu of the daily stipend.

The *Summer HEAT 2006* menu will include a broad array of sessions to accommodate all instructional personnel, focusing on literacy for all academic and special content areas, support for new and early career teachers, secondary school reform, advanced placement and exceptional education, Continuous Improvement Model implementation in 30 additional schools, a new track for accomplished educators interested in leadership roles and specialized opportunities for teachers in School Improvement Zone

schools. The menu will also feature Educational, Research and Dissemination institutes offered in collaboration with the United Teachers of Dade. *Summer HEAT* professional development offerings will be bolstered through demonstration and modeling sessions available at six Summer School Demonstration sites, allowing teachers to view firsthand the implementation of *best practices* in the workplace.

Staff members from the Office of Professional Development and the Office of Curriculum, Instruction & School Improvement are collaboratively designing the contents for each district sponsored academy to insure that sessions directly support the district's literacy curriculum. Sessions will be presented by professional development specialists, subject area experts, consultants and university or local museum staff members. To date, several presentations featuring nationally recognized education experts have been confirmed including sessions by Dr. Harry Wong, Dr. Deborah Estes and a team of specialists from the Smithsonian and National History Museums in Washington, D.C.

To insure that professional learning is extended and reinforced following the *Summer HEAT 2006* experience, all academies and institutes will include rigorous, ongoing follow-up support throughout the school year. Follow-up support will be job-embedded, thereby reducing the loss of instructional time during the school year and enhancing student achievement. By expanding the *Summer HEAT 2006* initiative to serve approximately 72% more instructional personnel than participated in the 2005 *Summer HEAT* program, the positive impact on student learning resulting from fewer intrusions on instructional time will be magnified.

A specialized academy for teachers of advanced placement courses will be taught by consultants from The College Board. The sessions will provide an overview of the curriculum, structure and content for 12 AP courses, focusing on teaching strategies and the link between each course and the corresponding Advanced Placement Examination. Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the College Board in an amount not to exceed \$138,000, for related planning, delivery and follow-up services to be provided by College Board consultants. The contract will be effective from March 16, 2006, through June 30, 2006.

The proposed contract has been reviewed by the Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021, during the meeting held on March 6, 2006. The committee has recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted due to the fact that the College Board is the sole source provider for these services.

In addition to district sponsored week-long academies, teachers may elect to participate in one of the following university institutes. Participants will receive three graduate credits from the university in lieu of the daily stipend.

| Institute | Target Audience | Contractor | Cost |
|--|---|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Summer Arts Institute | Special area teachers | University of Miami | \$ 65,000 |
| M-DCPS/University of Miami Reading Institute | All teachers | University of Miami | \$ 50,000 |
| Zelda Glazer/University of Miami Writing Institute | All teachers | University of Miami | \$100,000 |
| INSTAR Science Teacher Institute | Intermediate, middle & senior high science teachers | University of Miami | \$115,000 |
| Transnational Childhoods: Integrating the African Diaspora into the Curriculum | All elementary teachers | Florida International University | \$ 7,500 |
| Project Edison Succeeds! | Academy teachers at Miami Edison Senior High School | University of Miami | \$35,000 |

Leadership Opportunities

Professional learning opportunities for school-site administrators will also be aligned with district goals, emphasizing instructional, school and operational leadership in an urban setting. The *Summer HEAT 2006* initiative will serve approximately 290 principals and assistant principals as well as 300 aspiring school leaders.

For a second year, approximately fifty principals will be invited to participate in one of the following comprehensive institutes offered by The Principals' Center at the Harvard Graduate School of Education:

| |
|---|
| The Principals' Center at Harvard Graduate School of Education |
| Data Wise: Step-by-Step Blueprint for Using Assessment Results to Improve Teaching and Learning |
| Improving Schools: The Art of Leadership |
| National Institute for Urban School Leaders |
| Leadership: An Evolving Vision |

Leadership teams comprised of principals, assistant principals and teacher leaders from 30 schools teams will participate in the Instructional Leadership Academy that will be held June 12-16, 2006. ILA sessions will be designed and delivered by the Council for Educational Change (CEC) to promote increased student achievement. Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the CEC in an amount not to exceed \$175,000, for related planning, delivery and follow-up services to be provided by CEC. The contract will be effective from March 16, 2006, through June 30, 2006.

The Professional Services Contract Committee reviewed this proposed contract during the meeting held on March 6, 2006, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted in light of the CEC's specific expertise in providing these services.

A local academy designed specifically for assistant principals will focus on developing and expanding their knowledge in the core leadership components. The academy will be conducted by high-performing school principals and district administrators. Featured speakers include Dr. Kay Lovelace-Taylor, a national expert on leadership and narrowing the achievement gap, and Dr. Pedro Noguera, Professor of Steinhardt School of Education at New York University and a well recognized advocate for school reform and diversity.

In partnership with the Dade Association of School Administrators (DASA), the Office of Professional Development is planning specialized leadership sessions to be presented during the DASA summer institute. Principals and reading coaches from Reading First schools will also be invited to attend the State of Florida Reading Leadership Conference.

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

1. implement the district-wide Professional Development initiative *Summer HEAT 2006*;
2. enter into contractual agreements with universities identified for the delivery of the five (5) institutes listed on page 2 of the Board Item in an amount not to exceed \$337,500;
3. enter into contractual agreements with The College Board in an amount not to exceed \$138,000 and with the Council for Educational Change in an amount not to exceed \$175,000;
4. grant exception to Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021, for The College Board based on the fact that they are the sole source provider for the services; and
5. grant exception to Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021, for the Council for Educational Change based on the specific expertise of the contractors.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund 2006-2007 budget and Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Program Fund) for 2005-2006.

AGB/CM:hf