

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH JACKSON CONSULTING, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$85,460, TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES THAT SUPPORT RESEARCH-BASED LITERACY PRACTICES, EFFECTIVE MARCH 27, 2006, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with Jackson Consulting, in an amount not to exceed \$85,460, effective March 27, 2006, through June 30, 2006, to provide rigorous professional development grounded in scientifically based reading research for the sequential acquisition of reading skills tied to the national and state requirements for creating highly qualified teachers. This is a new contractual agreement.

Jackson Consulting will provide professional development to regional and school site administrators implementing Title I programs. The training is designed to provide participants with the ability to recognize effective literacy instruction and appropriately identify and mobilize site-based resources to support teachers and improve student achievement. Also, included in this course is an action planning session that focuses on evaluating the current state of literacy instruction and outcomes, defining the roles of the reading coach and leader, determining what the immediate literacy needs are, and developing a course of action to address the identified needs.

Additionally, selected reading coaches from Title I schools have been identified as "lead coaches" and will participate in a three-day professional development entitled *Advanced Reading Coach Course and Practicum*. This course is designed to deepen their knowledge of reading research and accompanying practices, and build their capacity as local experts.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021 reviewed this Board item on February 23, 2006, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted for Jackson Consulting as Otherwise Determined by the Committee.

C-41

The Founder of Jackson Consulting is Ms. Jill M. Jackson.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Programs Fund) under Fund 0420, Function 5100, Program 4319, Object 5310, Location 9702.

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

1. enter into a contractual agreement with Jackson Consulting to provide professional development services that support research-based literacy practices, in an amount not to exceed \$85,460, effective March 27, 2006, through June 30, 2006; and
2. grant an exception to Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021, for Jackson Consulting as Otherwise Determined by the Committee.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Program Fund).

JB:pac