

Business Operations
Ofelia San Pedro, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND TEACHER QUALITY RESOURCES, PURSUANT TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 070-FF10 – PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTRUCTIONAL ASSESSMENT AND APPRAISAL SYSTEM

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

During the meeting held on October 19, 2005, the School Board approved the Administration's recommendation to authorize the Superintendent to pursue the acquisition and implementation of a competent evaluation and appraisal system for instructional personnel that would serve to replace the Performance Assessment Comprehensive Evaluation System (PACES) currently utilized by the district.

A Request For Proposals (RFP No. 070-FF10 – Professional Consulting Services for Development of An Instructional Assessment and Appraisal System) was issued on January 23, 2006, soliciting bids for the development of an assessment and appraisal system in compliance with statutory requirements that would facilitate the evaluation of all instructional personnel, including classroom teachers, school psychologists, guidance counselors, media specialists, teachers on special assignment and curriculum specialists. Notice of the RFP was advertised and transmitted to approximately 25 prospective vendors. In response to the RFP, proposals were received on February 16, from the following entities: CaseNex, LLC; Information Systems of Florida; Outcomes Associates, TaskStream, LLC and Teacher Quality Resources, LLC.

An evaluation committee comprised of district officials and representatives from the United Teachers of Dade was appointed by the M-DCPS/UTD Joint Task Force on Standards for Educational Evaluation to review the proposals. During the committee's first meeting held on February 22, committee members identified three vendors who would be invited to discuss their proposals during oral presentations scheduled for February 24. The vendors included CaseNex, Outcomes Associates and Teacher Quality Resources, LLC. Following the initial review and presentations, the committee conducted final deliberations on March 1, selecting Teacher Quality Resources, LLC as the recommended vendor, citing the vendor's extensive nationwide experience in designing instructional performance appraisal systems.

Upon the Board's approval of the recommended proposal, work to design the system will be launched immediately. Teacher Quality Resources, LLC, through Dr. James Stronge as the appointed project director, will oversee the design, development and modification process, engaging key stakeholders to insure that the system is fair, equitable and in compliance with applicable Florida Statutes, Florida State Board Rules and Miami-Dade County Public Schools Board Rules and Policies. The development of the design system will involve ongoing collaboration with representatives from UTD.

The system will be modeled from current research and best practices on teaching quality that emphasize the inclusion of embedded professional development tied to the identified needs of instructional personnel. The professional development component will offer continuous support and professional growth ranging from beginning to accomplished teachers. In addition, the system will incorporate multiple mechanisms to document accountability for student learning, including client surveys, portfolios and observations.

It is anticipated that the completed design will be presented to the Board for its review and approval during the Board meeting that will be held on June 15, 2006. Upon Board approval, the district will implement the new system during the 2006-2007 school year. Teacher Quality Resources, LLC will own the copyright to the new system and grant an unlimited license to the district to use and modify the system for all district purposes.

Fund Source
0100 – General

M/WBE Eligibility
None

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, **AUTHORIZE** the Superintendent of Schools to negotiate and enter into a contractual services agreement between The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and Teacher Quality Resources, LLC, pursuant to Request For Proposals No. 070-FF10 – PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTRUCTIONAL ASSESSMENT AND APPRAISAL SYSTEM, for the development of an assessment and appraisal system for all instructional personnel, including but not limited to classroom teachers, school psychologists, guidance counselors, media specialists, teachers on special assignment and curriculum specialists effective March 15, 2006, as follows:

1. TEACHER QUALITY RESOURCES, LLC
P.O. BOX 519
WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23187
OWNER: JENNIFER HINDMAN, PH.D. MANAGING PARTNER
2. Authorize Procurement Management Services to purchase up to the estimated amount of \$300,000.

OSP/lja