

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR TEACHING ENTREPRENEURSHIP (NFTE), IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$135,000, TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES THAT SUPPORT ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION, EFFECTIVE APRIL 19, 2006, THROUGH MAY 18, 2007

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE), in an amount not to exceed \$135,000, effective April 19, 2006, through May 18, 2007, to provide rigorous professional development grounded in the fundamentals of entrepreneurship education as well as materials and supplies. The contractual agreement is for four days of training, technical support for a year, 800 NFTE student textbooks and workbooks. The contractual agreement is consistent with the terms of the contract and aligned to the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Secondary School Reform Plan.

NFTE will provide four-day University training during the spring of 2006 to forty middle and senior high school teachers, as well as continuous technical assistance for the 2006-2007 school year. The selection of teachers will be as follows: a) nine teachers will be selected through application and interview process to be part of the instructional staff for the 9-12 Summer Demonstration High School; b) thirty-one teachers will be selected to represent Coral Gables Senior High School, Ponce de Leon Middle School, Booker T. Washington Senior High School, Jose de Diego Middle School, South Miami Senior High School, South Miami K-8 Center, Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School, Miami Lakes Middle School, South Dade Senior High School, Homestead Middle, Miami Southridge Senior High School, Centennial Middle School, Miami Northwestern Senior High School, Charles R. Drew Middle School, Miami Norland Senior High School, and Norland Middle School. These schools were selected because their student population best represents the type of communities that NFTE partners with as part of its mission. The mission at NFTE is to bring the power of entrepreneurship and economic self-sufficiency to high-risk, low-income, minority students around the world. The teachers will become Certified Entrepreneurship Trainers and will be provided with sets of textbooks and workbooks for delivery of the NFTE entrepreneurship curriculum to their students. Students will learn how to create a business plan, keep records, and master other business fundamentals; hence preparing them for their senior year internship experience. The four-day NFTE training will take place at Florida International University (FIU) Biscayne Campus.

NFTE joined forces with KidVentures in March, 2005 to form NFTE South Florida. KidVentures is an entrepreneurial program for grades five through eight which has been in existence in Miami-Dade County since 1999.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021, reviewed this Board item on March 30, 2006, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted for NFTE based on specific expertise. This specific expertise is based on the fact that NFTE is the only organization that provides University level training on entrepreneurship skills to participants. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was not initiated since many organizations could provide curriculum, but no organization could provide the level of specific training that NFTE can deliver.

The Executive Director of National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) South Florida is Dr. Alice Horn.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund 2006-2006 budget under Fund 0100, Function 6300, Program 9634, Object 5390, Location 6300.

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

1. enter into a contractual agreement with the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) to provide professional development services that support entrepreneurship education, in an amount not to exceed \$135,000, effective April 19, 2006, through May 18, 2007;
2. grant an exception to Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021, for NFTE based on specific expertise.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund 2005-2006 budget.

MF:aa