

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

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI MAILMAN CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND SPECIALIZED SPEECH TRAINING FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$458,601, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2006, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007**

**COMMITTEE:       INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Authorization is requested to enter into a contractual agreement with the University of Miami Mailman Center for Child Development to provide educational services and specialized speech training for students who are deaf and hard-of-hearing, effective July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007. The University of Miami's Auditory/Oral Education Program for the deaf of hard-of-hearing specializes in training students to use sensory aids such as hearing aids and tactile aids of cochlear implants. When worn in combination with hearing aids, tactile aids enhance the ability to understand and produce spoken language. Basic instruction, as well as individual and group speech therapy, focuses on developing the students' oral speech and language skills. This contractual agreement has been in effect since 1985.

The University of Miami's Auditory/Oral Education Program will provide certified personnel, technical and training assistance to implement the program, an on-site training coordinator who supervises program activities, equipment, and equipment maintenance. Students will receive basic instruction as well as individual and group sensory aid instruction. Additionally, the University of Miami's Auditory/Oral Education Program will provide technical and training assistance for the satellite sites of Auburndale Elementary School, Kenwood K-8 Center, Miami Lakes K-8 Center, Rockway Middle School, Palm Springs Middle School, and other school sites serving students from the University of Miami/Miami-Dade County Public Schools Program.

Funding for this contract will be provided by FTE from the Florida Education Finance Program. The contractual agreement will provide for a maximum of 35 full-time students to be served in the University of Miami's Auditory/Oral Education Program based on their Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) or Family Support Plans (FSPs) and on their current matrix funding levels, including a maximum of ten students below age three, in an amount not to exceed \$458,601.

The Associate Director of Educational Services for the University of Miami Mailman Center for Child Development, Auditory/Oral Education Program, is Ms. Kathleen Vergara.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2006-2007 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2006 under Fund 0100, Function 5217, Program 6840, Object 5310, Location 9731.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the University of Miami Mailman Center for Child Development to provide educational services and specialized speech training for deaf and hard-of-hearing students, in an amount not to exceed \$458,601, effective July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2006-2007 Tentative Budget to be recommended for the adoption in July 2006.

LCR/BB:jf