

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

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO USE FUNDS THROUGH THE MIAMI-DADE COALITION FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION DONATED BY THE BANK OF AMERICA FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE DELL TECHKNOW PROGRAM**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Dell TechKnow program is a teacher-led, after-school, hands-on course in which students work in teams to learn the basics of computer hardware assembly and troubleshooting. Participating students who successfully complete the after-school program earn a refurbished Dell desktop computer to take home, complete with operating system, software, and one year of free Internet access. In order to participate in the program, students must be in grades five through eight and eligible for free or reduced price lunch. More than 300 Miami-Dade County Public Schools' students have taken home refurbished Dell computers since the program began in September 2004.

The program was initially approved by the School Board at its meeting of August 18, 2004. Under Agenda Item E-121, which authorized the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with Dell; six middle schools participated in the program. Later that school year, Dell offered to provide additional refurbished computers. The School Board approved an amendment to the cooperative agreement at its meeting of February 16, 2005, which also authorized program expansion to a total of eleven middle schools.

In order to support the District in delivering the TechKnow program, Dell approached Bank of America who, through a partnership with the Miami-Dade Coalition for Community Education, has donated \$65,000. Using the funds donated to the Miami-Dade Coalition for Community Education, the District will provide teacher hourly pay at currently participating schools and will fund expansion of the program to elementary schools, additional middle schools, and community schools.

The expansion of the Dell TechKnow program was opened to all District elementary, middle, and community schools. In order to participate, schools must provide a qualified instructor to teach the course, secure space for students to learn hardware assembly, and ensure that only students who meet the eligibility criteria are selected for the program. The list of schools that applied is found on the following chart:

**REVISED**  
**C-40**

School	Location	Region	District
Allapattah Middle School	6011	IV	2
Arvida Middle School	6021	V	7
Biscayne Gardens Elementary Community School	0361	II	1
Centennial Middle School	6081	VI	9
Cutler Ridge Middle School	6111	VI	9
Emerson * Elementary Community School	1641	V	8
Doral Middle School	6151	III	5
Flagami Elementary Community School	1841	V	8
Glades Middle School	6211	V	6
Gratigny Elementary School	2241	II	2
H.D. McMillan Middle Community School *	6441	V	8
Hammocks Middle School	6221	VI	7
Homestead Middle School	6251	VI	9
Horace Mann Middle School	6411	IV	2
Howard A. Doolin Middle School	6131	V	7
Jose Marti Middle School	6421	I	4
Lake Stevens Middle School	6351	I	1
Lawton Chiles Middle School	6161	I	4
Madison Middle School	6391	III	2
Mays Middle Community School *	6431	VI	9
Miami Edison Middle School	6481	IV	2
Miami Springs Middle School	6521	III	5
Natural Bridge Elementary School	3661	II	1
Nautilus Middle School	3661	II	3
Norland Middle School	6571	II	1
North County Elementary Community School *	3821	I	1
Norwood Elementary School	4001	II	1
Palm Springs North Elementary Community School *	4281	I	4
Parkway Middle School	6721	II	1
Parkway Elementary School	4341	II	1
Redland Middle School	6761	VI	9
Rivera Middle School	6801	V	8
Rockway Middle School	6821	III	8
Ruben Dario Middle School	6121	III	5
Thomas Jefferson Middle School	6281	II	1
W R Thomas Middle School	6901	V	8
West Miami Middle Community School *	6961	V	8
West Miami Middle School	6961	V	8
Westview Middle School	6981	III	2

\*Community Schools

These schools have applied additional schools meeting the selection criteria can still opt to participate.

Revised

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

1. expand the Dell TechKnow program to any elementary, middle, and community school with students that meet program criteria; and
2. use funds made available through the Coalition for Community Education and donated by the Bank of America.

AD/CBM:sjd