

Office of Professional Development
Ava G. Byrne, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A
CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE MIAMI MUSEUM OF SCIENCE CENTER FOR INTERACTIVE LEARNING FOR THE
PERIOD OF OCTOBER 12, 2006, THROUGH FEBRUARY 28,
2007, TO MODIFY THE PD³ CLASSROOM WALKTHROUGH
TOOL TO ALIGN WITH NEWLY ADOPTED FLORIDA SUNSHINE
STATE STANDARDS FOR READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS**

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

Authorization is requested to allow the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the Miami Museum of Science Center for Interactive Learning to modify the PD³ (Professional Development Decisions Using Data) K-3 Classroom Walkthrough tool to support newly adopted standards in reading and language arts issued by the Florida Department of Education. In addition to the modification that will align the PD³ tool with the updated Sunshine State Standards, the tool will be expanded to apply throughout grades K-12. Funding for the contracted services has been budgeted through a grant in the amount of \$500,000 from the Florida Department of Education, Project Number 130-2246A-6CL01, that was accepted by the Board during the meeting held on July 12, 2006, (Board Item C-93.)

The PD³ Classroom Walkthrough tool was developed by the Miami Museum of Science Center for Interactive Learning, in collaboration with SRI International, M-DCPS and the Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR) to enhance the monitoring of teaching and learning in the classroom. In particular, the tool enables administrators to conduct classroom visits that assess the quality of teaching and learning in reading and language arts classrooms, focusing on the five essential components of reading instruction. The developmental work undertaken by the Museum in designing the original PD³ tool renders it uniquely qualified to oversee modifications that will expand the tool's application from grades K-3 to K-12 and simultaneously align it with newly adopted Florida Sunshine State Standards.

In addition to the tool's alignment to the updated Sunshine State Standards in reading and language arts and the expansion to serve administrators across grades K-12, the scope of the contracted work will include developing and updating the web application for the new reading/language arts format, expanding the web application and data base server, enhancing network connectivity, modifying and unifying the technical applications and conducting field testing.

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The anticipated cost for the contract will not exceed \$202,664. The contract term will be effective from October 12, 2006, through February 28, 2007. The proposed contract was presented to the Professional Services Contract Committee on September 21, 2006, and an exception was granted to School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F1.021 as otherwise determined by the committee, based on the fact that the Miami Museum of Science developed the PD³ tool and the contract will align the tool with the new Sunshine State Standards in reading and language arts and expand its application across grades K-12.

The appropriation for this item is included in Contracted Programs for 2006-2007 under Fund 0420, Function 6300, Program 3319, Object 5310, Location 9017.

RECOMMENDED:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement in an amount not to exceed \$202,664 with the Miami Museum of Science Center for Interactive Learning for the period of October 12, 2006, through February 28, 2007, to modify the PD³ Classroom Walkthrough tool to support the new Florida Sunshine State Standards for Reading and Language Arts in grades K-12, and
2. grant an exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F1.021 as otherwise determined by the committee, based on the fact that the Miami Museum of Science developed the PD³ tool and the proposed contract will align the tool with the new Sunshine State Standards in reading and language arts and expand its application across grades K-12.

The appropriation for this item is in Contracted Programs for 2006-2007.

AGB:dg