

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent  
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ACCEPT FUNDS THROUGH A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF MIAMI-DADE/MONROE (ELCMD/M) TO PROVIDE SUBSTITUTE COVERAGE FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION FEE-SUPPORTED AND TITLE I PRE-KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS TO ADMINISTER THE LEARNING ACCOMPLISHMENT PROFILE-DIAGNOSTIC (LAP-D) AND THE DEVEREUX EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS TO ALL MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL VOLUNTARY PRE-KINDERGARTEN (VPK) STUDENTS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Legislation enacted by the Florida Legislature, entitled the School Readiness Act of 1999, *Florida Statute 411.01*, created the Florida Partnership for School Readiness Board to provide a unified approach to coordinate and to enhance school readiness programs in the state. To fulfill the intent of this legislation, the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELCMD/M), a not-for-profit organization, was formed. Its purpose is to implement and to evaluate an integrated and quality seamless service delivery system for all early childhood and care programs funded by the Voluntary Pre-kindergarten (VPK) in Miami-Dade County. To advance this mission, the ELCMD/M and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) became partners in the assessment of four-year old students.

During the 2006-2007 school year, all pre-kindergarten students enrolled in the Community Education Fee-Supported and Title I Pre-kindergarten Programs will be assessed with the Learning Accomplishment Profile-Diagnostic (LAP-D) and the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) instruments. The LAP-D assesses cognitive, language, mathematics, and motor skills development. DECA assesses social and emotional development. These assessments, which guide and focus instruction for greater achievement, are also used by school readiness programs funded through the ELCMD/M.

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In support of this effort, the ELCMD/M authorized a contractual agreement with M-DCPS to provide funding, not to exceed \$95,000, to provide substitute coverage for full-time pre-kindergarten teachers administering the LAP-D and DECA instruments. For each teacher there are three days for testing. This is the fifth year that the ELCMD/M will provide funds to cover substitute instructors for pre-kindergarten teachers that are assessing students.

The interim CEO of the ELCMD/M is Mr. Jonah Pruitt.

Based on the contractual agreement between M-DCPS and ELCMD/M, reimbursement of contract-related expenditures is authorized effective, November 21, 2006.

No local funds are required.

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

1. accept funds through a contractual agreement, with the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe (ELCMD), in an amount not to exceed \$95,000, to provide substitute coverage for Community Education Fee-Supported and Title I pre-kindergarten teachers effective November 21, 2006, through June 30, 2007; and
2. direct Financial Operations to establish revenues and appropriations not to exceed \$95,000; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the School Board.

No local funds are required.

CJ:SJD:vw