

Alberto M. Carvalho, Associate Superintendent  
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Services

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (USDOE) FOR FUNDING UNDER THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, PROJECT BILINGUAL EDUCATION THROUGH MANDARIN INSTRUCTION (BETMI), AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Authorization is requested to accept a grant award from the United States Department of Education (USDOE), in the total amount of \$741,953, to fund Project Bilingual Education Through Mandarin Instruction (BETMI) at five schools for the grant period of September 15, 2006, through September 14, 2009. Under the Foreign Language Assistance Program, the USDOE authorized funding through a discretionary grant process for development of a dual language program in grades K-12 in Mandarin Chinese. The grant will be managed by the Division of Bilingual Education and World Languages and supports Goal II of the District's Strategic Plan to develop our students so that they are able to successfully compete in the global society.

Within the existing infrastructure, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) seeks to address the need to explore options for students to develop and enhance foreign language skills. Project BETMI will enable M-DCPS to:

- review, develop, and/or modify curriculum, instructional materials and technology for promoting Chinese language acquisition and cultural knowledge;
- implement an effective, rigorous Mandarin Chinese program through integration of staff development activities grounded in research; and
- develop high levels of communication skills in Mandarin Chinese and an understanding of the culture and history of Asian nations.

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Five schools from two feeder patterns will participate in Project BETMI. The American Senior High feeder pattern was selected to support an emerging Chinese language program started at Lawton Chiles Middle in 2005-2006. The Miami Killian Senior High feeder pattern was selected based on school and community interest. The schools are: Palm Springs North Elementary (K-5); Lawton Chiles Middle (6-8); American Senior High (9-12); Devon Aire K-8 Center (K-8); and Miami Killian Senior High (9-12).

Under the new National Security Language Initiative, the USDOE will focus resources toward educating students and teachers in critical need foreign languages such as Chinese. The District is currently working on a second submission for the competition scheduled to be announced in May, 2007. Two feeder patterns have been targeted for this bilingual program: Miami Palmetto Senior High School, which includes Miami Palmetto Middle and Palmetto Elementary Schools, and North Miami Beach High School, which includes John F. Kennedy Middle and Greynolds Park Elementary Schools.

Through a collaboration with the Institute for Asian Studies at Florida International University (FIU), M-DCPS will incorporate research and best practices into professional development activities that will include sessions on language, curriculum, and pedagogy. FIU will also assist in the development of curriculum maps across grades, incorporation of culture into language instruction, and the use of formal and informal assessments to monitor progress.

In accordance with the terms of the grant application, authorization is requested to enter into separate contractual agreements with FIU in an amount not to exceed \$100,600, over the three years of the grant.

Matching funds are required (50 percent of total project costs) to receive this grant award. The in-kind match, valued at \$849,337, over three years, is met through salaries of staff from the Division of Bilingual Education who will oversee implementation, salaries for Chinese language teachers who will be hired for instruction, existing computer network and infrastructure, and use of facilities. Grant funds in the amount of \$741,953, will be used for full-time salaries, part-time hourly personnel, travel, equipment, contracted services, and supplies.

Official notification of this grant award was received on September 29, 2006, which is after the start of the grant period. Reimbursement of grant-related expenditures is authorized effective September 15, 2006.

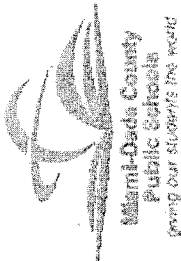
**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. accept a grant award from the United States Department of Education (USDOE), for funding under the Foreign Language Assistance Program, Project Bilingual Education Through Mandarin Instruction (BETMI), in the total amount of \$741,953, for the grant period of September 15, 2006, through September 14, 2009;
2. retain funds from the grant in an amount not to exceed the annually negotiated indirect cost rate, as allowed and approved by the USDOE;
3. enter into a contractual agreement with Florida International University for an amount not to exceed \$100,600, to provide professional development and curriculum support for the grant period of September 15, 2006, through September 14, 2009;
4. extend this program and contractual agreement as authorized through official notification from the granting agency in order to complete the goals of the program; and
5. direct Financial Operations to establish appropriations in the amounts approved or as amended by the granting agency; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board.

AMC/JU

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BUDGET SUMMARY FORM



Yes  No Are there any in-kind or matching funds required?  
 Entitlement Grant  Non-Entitlement Contract

GRANT/PROGRAM NAME: Project BETMI (Bilingual Education Through Mandarin Instruction)

Grant Period Beginning September 15, 2006 Ending September 14, 2009  
 (Date) (Date)

FUNCTION	Total Budget	Salaries (51XX)	Employee Benefits (52XX)	Purchased Services (53XX)	Energy Services (54XX)	Materials and Supplies (55XX)	Capital Outlay (56XX)	Other Expense (57XX)
<b>INSTRUCTION SERVICES</b>	5000	658,053.00	282,059.00	75,399.00	100,600.00	160,000.00	40,000.00	
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES:</b>								
Pupil Personnel Services	6100							
Instructional Media Services	6200							
Instruction & Curriculum Development	6300							
Instructional Staff Training	6400	25,144.00	19,250.00	2,082.00	3,812.00			
Board of Education	7100							
General Administration	7200	22,751.00*						22,751.00*
School Administration	7300							
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction	7400							
Fiscal Services	7500							
Food Services	7600							
Central Services	7700	36,000.00			36,000.00			
Transportation Services	7800							
Operation of Plant	7900							
Maintenance of Plant	8100							
Community Services	9100							
Debt	9200							
<b>TOTAL INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>		741,953.00	301,309.00	77,481.00	140,412.00	160,000.00	40,000.00	22,751.00

\*Includes Federal Indirect Costs of 22,751

Reviewed By: [Signature]  
 Division of Budget  
 Submitted for Board Approval/Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agenda Item C-85 Board Meeting of November 21, 2006  
 (Number) (Date)